W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XXVI January 3, 1925 1

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects.

Belle Fourche

With continued storms, cold weather, and rough roads but little travel was attempted with the automobile during the week ending January 3.

County Agent A. D. Ellison spent one day in Newell conferring with the agriculturist on plans for the coming year. Junior and adult clubs have been organized with their local leaders and officers.

Milk samples were run for three dairymen and one registered Holstein bull placed. Butterfat brings 35 cents a pound and eggs 45 cents per dozen on the local market.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

The report for the week ending January 3 is as follows:

On Sunday a snowstorm of several days duration ended during which approximately 15 inches of snow fell. For the most part this has not been disturbed by winds. The weather has been mild with the temperature hovering around the melting point.

The first half of the week was used almost entirely in connection with the preparation of the annual report, although three press articles totaling 600 words, including a market report, were prepared and office calls given attention. A circular letter announcing the Cow-Testing Association meetings was also prepared and sent out.

A community meeting was attended at Round Butte on Friday with the cow tester and a dairy representative, Mr. Morris, of the I. H. C., and the cow-testing work was presented at the meeting. Silos were also given attention,and a number of farmers present indicated their interest in the silo, especially the trench type.

On Saturday the same trio journeyed to Moiese and conducted a C.T.A. meeting. Tuberculosis and silos were also discussed. An attempt was made to be at another scheduled meeting in Valley View on the evening of the same day, but deep snow prevented us getting any farther than Polson.

Butterfat prices lifted to 44 cents and 66 cents at collecting station. Eggs dropped to 50 cents.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

During the first part of the week ending January 3 the annual report was finished.

The agriculturist discussed common ailments and diseases of dairy cattle with farmers in the neighborhood of Malta in a session of their winter dairy school. About thirty were present. Keen interest was taken in the lecture and in the round-table discussion which followed.

Minidoka (continued)

One day was spent in locating breeding turkeys. Considerable expansion of the turkey industry for the project is indicated by demand for breeding stock.

The remainder of the week was spent in planning a program for 1925.

John T. Montgomery.

Newlands

Some time was given early in the week ending January 3 to completing the annual report. Preparation of the annual report this year was considerably interfered with because of the absence of the Reclamation census, which has always been relied upon to show the status of the livestock industries. This survey of the Newlands Project will be completed some time in January.

During the past week one cooperative shipment of hogs was assembled and sold f.o.b. Fallon. Prime hogs brought nine cents per pound. Thirteen farmers participated.

An outbreak of chicken-pox in the chickens and turkeys of the project has caused considerable concern, and much time has been devoted to diagnosing outbreaks and to suggesting methods of handling the cases. The State Disease Control Service is vaccinating some of the larger flocks.

L. E. Cline.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XXVI January 10, 1925 No. 2

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

During the week ending January 10 samples of milk were gathered and butterfat tests run for three farmers. Two bred gilts were secured for two boys in the pig club. Three loans to purchase sheep through the Rural Credit Corporation of Minneapolis have been approved, and it is hoped these sheep can be delivered in February. Three loans for dairy cattle through this same corporation are now pending.

Newell gave a luncheon Saturday afternoon to all people interested in the growing of pickles. Nearly 100 attended this meeting. With 80 acres signed up, Newell expects to have a pickle-salting station the coming spring.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

During the first part of the week ending January 10 two meetings were attended. At the Lake County Affiliated Organizations meeting on Wednesday the gopher extermination campaign was given considerable attention. Plans for the campaign were presented and adopted. The Holstein breeders' meeting was also attended and cow-testing association work was shown and discussed and tuberculosis charts were presented and explained. Feeding and silage were given attention, and plans were formulated tentatively for securing a number of neighbors to combine for silo building and putting up silage next fall. This is to be a preferred subject for discussion at the next meeting.

The weekly market report was prepared; the Moiese cow-testing association meeting reported to the press; and farm notes were written for this week. Three poultry bulletins and six cow bulletins were sent to interested parties. Weekly and monthly reports and expense vouchers were cleared.

The records of the county assessor were visited to get livestock data for the project. A number of interviews were held to get the reaction to a proposed poultry show and a short course.

The agriculturist left on the 8th for Bozeman to attend the conference of the State extension workers.

Butterfat brought 42 cents and 44 cents at collection station; eggs remained at 50 cents.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

Two days of the week ending January 10 were spent with Mr. Ireland and Mr. McKnight from Montrose Project endeavoring to locate purebred Hampshire breeding ewes. None were found at a price that the Colorado man was willing to pay.

One day was spent in preparation of material for feeding and one in

Minidoka (continued)

arranging for the overhauling of the station automobile. Two days spent in the field on poultry and livestock calls from farmers revealed on one farm unthrifty pigs showing some abscesses and sheep sick with indigestion due to sudden change of ration.

Investigation shows a large percentage of frost bitten combs among the laying hens. Egg production is cut from fifty to one hundred per cent in various flocks, depending upon the construction and management of the poultry house. Some very well built, warm poultry houses were kept too close, and in these poorly ventilated buildings the percentage of frozen combs ran very high, severely frost bitten ones as high as 90 per cent. In others better managed, with more ventilation, the percentage was reduced to as low as 35 per cent. One well ventilated house, in which lighted lanterns were hung level with the dropping boards, escaped frost. Previous experimentation during the first cold snap when the lanterns were hung high next to the roof resulted in several frost bitten combs. This time, with the lanterns hung level with the dropping boards and the front of the house open, fine results were obtained.

J. T. Montgomery.

Newlands

The report for the week ending January 10 is as follows:

The outbreak of chicken-pox among the poultry flocks of the project continues to be a rather serious problem. The most serious aspect of the disease just now is its probable effect upon the next crop of turkeys. Several of the foundation flocks of turkeys, which are depended upon for the coming year's crop, have contracted chicken-pox; and the important thing to do now is to get the disease under control or stamped out before the turkey egg laying season begins in March. Every effort is being put forth by this office to acquaint the poultrymen with the serious aspects of the disease. During the week one article was contributed to the local press on this subject. Arrangements were made for vaccinating poultry on four farms, each of which included a large number of turkeys.

A second cooperative shipment of hogs for January was assembled and sold at Fallon. Prime hogs in this lot sold for 9 cents per pound. Light weight hogs sold for 8 cents per pound.

Some time was devoted to the Central Cream Testing Laboratory in helping to arrange for more convenient laboratory facilities. So far this laboratory, in which all cream purchased in this district is tested and weighed, has been working very satisfactorily. Many who did not understand the purpose of the laboratory at first were inclined to find fault. These objectors are beginning to find favor in the new testing plant.

L. E. Cline.

Shoshone

The first two days of the week ending January 10 were spent in collecting and testing milk samples from the eight herds using the Government bulls; 43 samples were tested.

Charles Bayer, leader of predatory animal control work in Wyoming, reached Powell on Tuesday evening. Wednesday and a part of Thursday were

Shoshone (continued)

spent in assisting him to start work near Deaver, Frannie, and Cowley. He has commenced operations near Deaver and will put a poison line all around the project, if the cooperation of the farmers can be secured.

The last two days of the week were spent in the office. The Park County Farm Bureau held their monthly meeting in this office on the 9th. Some time was spent in arranging a cooperative shipment of sheep. Two cars will be shipped next week consigned by four farmers. Only one car of lambs on feed are left on the Garland Division. They will probably be shipped the last of February.

O. J. Grace.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XXVI January 17, 1925 No. 3

Western Irrigation Agriculture.

San Antonio

During the first seventeen days of January the following meteorological data have been recorded: Maximum temperature 77 on the 7th; minimum 22 on the 12th; greatest daily range 40 on the 5th; precipitation .20 inch, which came in the form of scattered showers on four different days. Seven days were cloudy, five partly cloudy, and five clear. The temperature has been subnormal since the middle of December, with the exception of a very few days, and all winter crops have made exceptionally slow growth. No winter pasturage has been furnished by any of the small grains in this region to date.

Work done during the period has included the shelling and storing of the 1924 corn crop; making orchard, nursery, and greenhouse plantings of material received from the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction; cultivating orchards; straightening and bringing to proper grade the surface drain across the upper end of the farm; spring-tooth harrowing of plowed fields heavily infested with Johnson grass rootstalks; and miscellaneous work on buildings and grounds.

Mr. F. B. Headley visited the station January 3.

Geo. T. Ratliffe.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects.

Belle Fourche

Two days of the week ending January 17 were spent at schools in conducting drives for members in the boys' and girls' livestock clubs. At Vale one poultry club has been organized with 15 members. Sheep and pig clubs will soon be organized at Vale and Newell. Three girls' clubs are now organized. At the school meetings charts, photographs, and talks along livestock lines on the past year's work and plans for the future interested the boys and girls and will materially help in increasing the membership of our juvenile clubs.

Milk samples for butterfat tests were run for one dairyman. Four grade Holstein cows were placed on another farm.

Drifted roads prevented travel by automobile on two days.

Butterfat is selling for 31 cents and eggs for 50 cents on the local markets.

Frank E. Miller.

Flathead

The agriculturist returned on Friday of the week ending January 17 from the extension conference at Bozeman. Several private conferences were also held in Helena regarding follow-up work on tuberculosis and dairy problems. While in Bozeman conferences were held with various extension specialists, besides attending the sessions of the conference and exchanging ideas with the county extension workers.

On Friday night a meeting was held at Arlee and a community organization initiated. The gopher campaign was explained and steps were taken locally to perfect a local gopher committee. The Arlee community has been without any organization up to this time, so the enthusiasm shown Friday for a local organization was encouraging. A water users' meeting was also participated in at Charlo on Saturday.

This week butterfat brought 42 and 44 cents and ranch butter 45 cents; eggs remained at 50 cents.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

The agriculturist spent the first two days of the week ending January 17 attending the annual meeting of the Idaho Wool Growers' Association. A very interesting two day and evening program was carried out. Problems regarding feed conditions, management of range, relations to forest service, and selling wool and lambs were thoroughly discussed. The attendance was the largest in the history of the thirty-two years of the organization.

Mr. W. W. Meyer of the Department of Agriculture gave an interesting discussion on wool grades. Cooperative marketing of range wool was thoroughly discussed by representatives of the Intermediate Credit Bank at Seattle and the Pacific Wool Growers Cooperative Association of Portland. These institutions are selling wool at good prices due principally to their method of handling and financing the wool growers at a very low rate of interest, which of course was exceedingly interesting to Idaho sheepmen.

The remainder of the week was spent on problems of the office, principally in answering local calls and working with the county agent of Cassia County on some feeding schedules for various classes of livestock.

Some sore-mouthed sheep were reported and examination showed a slight infection which is frequently found in closely confined flocks. The infection is confined to older sheep and about five per cent of the flock.

The agriculturist has found two conveniences for drivers of Ford Roadsters which he passes on. One is a pocket for carrying the side curtains of the car, which prevents their wear and destruction when not in use. It is made by tacking a piece of top material to the side of the car next the driver's seat and the emergency brake. It should be large enough so that when the curtains are folded in the regular manner they fit the pocket closely. The large celluloid window in the front curtains lasts longer if it is divided into two windows with a narrow strip (an inch will do) of curtain material dividing the two windows. This also permits folding the curtain into shorter space.

The other convenience is the use of a rod which makes the front curtain on the right open with the door. A quarter-inch rod, bent with

Minidoka (continued)

an offset flush with the outside of the body and back to lap over the rear curtain and as high as the top will permit closing, is bolted to the top of the door near the ledge with two stove bolts. A strip of cloth is sewed to the curtain making a long narrow pocket for the rod. The rear curtain should be reinforced along the top with a strip of tape or top material for the sake of added strength. This arrangement has the advantage of making it possible to use the regular Ford curtain with the minimum of expense in attachment and is a wonderful convenience in use. The writer has found that the curtains with these two arrangements last twice as long.

J. T. Montgomery.

Shoshone

The week ending January 17 has been cold with no precipitation. Farmers are busy hauling hay. Fourteen cars of hay were loaded in one day at Powell. The alfalfa mills at Powell and Garland are running, and one portable mill is working near Garland.

Considerable time has been spent during the past two weeks in assisting farmers who shipped cattle in the cooperative shipment in December to get the returns on cattle held because of brands. Five of them were using brands recorded in the names of other ranchers whom they did not know, and several had neglected to get bills of sale.

Assistance was given in arranging and loading a cooperative shipment of two cars of lambs. These were consigned by four farmers and were loaded out on the 13th.

O. J. Grace.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XXVI | January 24, 1925 | No. 4

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending January 24 was 50 degrees with a maximum of 58 on January 22; the average minimum temperature was 20 degrees, with a minimum of 10 on January 20. No precipitation was recorded. The average hourly wind movement for the week was eight miles per hour.

Work on the turkey house in the poultry plant was continued. The usual routine of caring for stock has been the work of the week. There has been no further loss among the lambs, and they are again on full feed and are doing nicely. The winter has been very good for feeding as there has been very little snow and, with the exception of the latter half of December and the first week of January, has been quite mild.

Potatoes have strengthened in price somewhat and have been selling for $1.00 to $1.10 per hundredweight for Bliss Triumphs.

James A. Holden

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Flathead

The report for the week ending January 24 is as follows:

Sheep meetings were held at Charlo, St. Ignatius, and Polson on Monday and Tuesday, Mr. R. L. Waddell of the Montana Extension Service being chief speaker. The 4-H Club work in sheep was emphasized along with discussions of the sheep situation in general and locally. The gopher extermination campaign was explained by the agriculturist at these meetings. Tuberculosis charts from the I. H. C. were also presented and discussed at Charlo.

On Saturday the teachers of Lake County held a meeting at Polson. The agriculturist discussed the gopher campaign and explained the part the teachers and school children would be able to take. Upon invitation of the county superintendent, 4-H club work was briefly outlined at the same session.

A number of interviews throughout the week were held to interest farmers in corn variety trials in order to get corn better established and thus provide better feed to go with our alfalfa hay. Three men have tentatively agreed to date to take up this demonstration work.

Two calves were given aggressin; one case of garget of infectious nature was given attention; hen house plans and remodeling of same were discussed with one farmer; and a conference was held with cow tester regarding prospects and plans for reorganizing testing association for the coming year.

Efforts are being made to arrange a suitable program for a three-day short course for the valley.

Flathead (continued)

Butterfat sells for 40 cents and 42 cents at collecting station in Ronan. Eggs are selling at 45 cents and ranch butter at 37½ cents.

L. B. Miller

Minidoka

Due to weather conditions considerable time during the week ending January 24 was spent in the office on matters of publicity and investigation of cost of feeding pigs and conferences with callers.

Plans were made for two meetings - a dairymen's meeting on the 27th and a poultry tour on the 31st.

One farmer is growing and fattening hogs on culled spuds and garbage at a cost of approximately three cents a pound. Two or three farmers have asked about feeding cooked horse meat with culled spuds and a little corn as a feed for hogs. On a neighboring project one man is feeding cooked cull beans and horse meat with very good success.

J. T. Montgomery.

Newlands

Some time has been devoted during the week ending January 17 to helping in the selection of herd bulls and in arranging for suitable exchanges. During the week four registered dairy bulls were placed at the head of dairy herds, one Jersey and three Holsteins.

Considerable time has been given to chicken-pox in the turkey and chicken flocks. Since the State Disease Control Board is unable to do the vaccination work, it has fallen to the lot of this office. Two flocks totaling 475 turkeys and chickens were vaccinated, and vaccine was ordered for two more flocks to be vaccinated the coming week. One turkey grower has reported having chicken-pox or contagious epithelioma prior to this outbreak and at the time when his young turkeys were hatching out. He stated that his young turkeys were very badly affected and required almost constant nursing for two weeks to pull them through alive. This office is doing everything possible to prevent a general chicken-pox infection when the new turkeys come off this year.

On Friday delegates representing the marketing division of the California Cattlemen's Association held a meeting in Fallon to solicit membership and explain the purposes of the association, which are primarily to market beef cattle for six western States: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Nevada, and Arizona. This organization is an outgrowth of the California Cattlemen's Association, and the plan of operation which is proposed seems to have considerable merit and is attracting general attention of beef producers.

The vaccination of turkeys and chickens continued during the week ending January 24. This office supervised the vaccination of three flocks totaling 550 fowls.

During the past week some time has been given in assisting a man from Central California with a farm lease. Included in these arrangements was the disposal of the dairy herd on the farm to a third party and the selection of a registered Holstein bull for the Holstein herd left on the ranch.

Newlands (continued)

One other bull was selected for a Holstein registered herd. Diagnoses of pregnancy were made for two dairymen and one case was treated.

On Thursday a trip was made to the adjoining valley to attend a poultry show, which included exhibits from this valley. At this show a number of lectures and conferences were arranged for, and this office was called upon to deliver a talk on silos and silage feeding. This event was staged by the local farm bureau and was quite successful for a first attempt. The attendance was very good. The trip was made in the middle of the day.

L. E. Cline

North Platte

The greater part of the week ending January 24 was devoted to poultry and dairy development work. A trip was made to Veteran, Wyoming, in the interest of the Barton Bull club in that vicinity. This club is composed entirely of ex-service men. They are becoming quite interested in dairying and are making good use of the bull.

As the hatching season approaches there is considerable demand for standard bred cockerels of the leading breeds and varieties. This week 29 cockerels were located and selected for farmers.

A number of the settlers asked for assistance in selecting breeding pens and culling their flocks. Four culling demonstrations were given; 535 hens were handled and 137 culled out. Where farmers have their own wheat and equipment for grinding some of them are using the following laying mash with good results:

Ground wheat	500	pounds
Yellow corn meal	300	"
Tankage	150	"
Bone meal	40	"
Table salt	10	"

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The greater part of the week ending January 24 was warm and thawed enough to make the roads sloppy. Hay balers are working steadily and hay is being shipped in large quantities.

The State coyote hunter has completed a line of baits around the Project, but has put out poison at only two stations. I assisted a farmer Monday to put out baits near his sheep pasture, where he had suffered considerable loss from the depredations of coyotes last summer.

I attended a farm sale where 12 grade Holstein cows were sold at auction. The highest priced cow sold for $63 and the 12 averaged about $55. They were a fairly good lot of cows, and this was one of the largest dairy herds on the project. There is very little demand for hogs and horses, but the machinery sold well.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

A satisfactory bunch of ewes was finally located near Cambridge, Idaho, the first of the week ending January 17; but shipment could not be made until Friday due to twice-a-week freight service. These ewes are one to four years old, all registered and all bred to good rams. One is an eight-year-old imported ram, one a yearling son of the imported ram, and one a lamb that was the highest priced ram lamb at the National Sale in Salt Lake last year. A very good cut of the flock was given, the price being $40 per head.

Sixty-seven head of ewes were purchased, and five ram lambs from another breeder at $35 a head.

The demand for sheep has been so great that prices, especially on grade stock, have advanced steadily since early fall; and the available supply has been almost entirely taken up. Buyers from Montana have been scouring Idaho, buying large numbers at good prices. A carload of purebred Hampshire ewes was shipped to Maryland from the same flock from which ewes were purchased for the Uncompahgre Project.

The shipment of Hampshire sheep from Cambridge, Idaho, arrived in Montrose Tuesday morning of the week ending January 24. They came through in 90 hours from the time they were loaded, including one short stop for feed and rest at Salt Lake. The sheep were well fed before being loaded, the car (a box car) having been deeply bedded with clean, dry straw; and a good quantity of alfalfa hay and two tubs of packed snow were put in the car, which permitted longer runs without injury to the sheep. They came through in fine shape. All the men interested in the shipment were on hand to receive the stock, which was divided into ten lots of from three to twenty head by chance cut. This resulted in a fairly satisfactory division, although one lot was a somewhat poorer average than the rest. Most of the ewes were heavy with lamb and one lamb was dropped before the end of the week. The shipment consisted of 30 head of yearlings (really two-year olds) coming in with their first lambs, 19 head of three-year olds, and 17 head four to five years old. They are all registered, papers to be delivered with transfers paid, and bred to exceptionally good registered rams. Five good ram lambs were also included in the shipment.

With the exception of one trip to inspect a flock of hens in which disease had appeared, the rest of the week was spent in the office on correspondence, reports, etc.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XXVI January 31, 1925 No. 5

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Newlands

For the month of January, 1925, Mr. Knight reports as follows:

"The meteorological data recorded at this station during the period follows: Mean maximum 49.3, maximum 62; mean minimum 21.4, minimum 11. There was .03 of an inch of rainfall on the 24th. The month has been much warmer than the average January. The average mean temperature for January over a period of 18 years has been 30.4. This year the mean for this month was 35.4. The absolute minimum was 11 degrees higher than the average over the same period.

"Work at the station, due to the warm weather, has progressed unusually well. The teamster has finished hauling manure on the pastures, orchard, and garden. The irrigation ditches have been put in shape for the coming irrigation season. Tile has been laid in the drain south of the mess house and the open drain filled. A new horse shed has been completed in the horse corral. At present the men are engaged at several small jobs about the buildings and grounds."

E. W. Knight.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

During the week ending January 31 registration papers on the carload of Ayrshires recently shipped into the project were received and distributed to the proper owners. This lot of cattle are doing well, and the buyers without exception are well pleased with their purchases. Seven registered sires are being used with grade or registered Ayrshire cattle.

Two hundred circular letters giving the sheep scab situation and Farmers' Bulletin 713 on sheep scab were sent out from this office. Dr. Ray, head of the State Livestock Sanitary Board, and Dr. Wilson of the Bureau of Animal Industry have promised to keep men in the field as long as needed for inspection work and to supervise the dipping. Preparations are now under way so that extensive dipping of exposed and diseased sheep can begin as soon as the weather permits.

Eggs brought from 40 to 50 cents per dozen and butterfat sold for 28 cents per pound during the week.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

The weather continued warm with practically no freezing temperatures throughout the week ending January 31. Frost is leaving several surface inches of soil which is particularly noticeable in roads.

Considerable time during the week was devoted to the gopher extermination campaign. In this connection, a conference with the county com-

Flathead (continued)

missioners was held on Monday; their active cooperation was expressed and plans were formulated. Two community meetings the last of the week were devoted largely to perfecting detailed local organizations for a thorough campaign in the Jocko Valley and the territory around St. Ignatius.

During the week the farmers of the project were listed and cattle tabulated, using the tuberculosis eradication records as the source of information.

The Cow-Testing Association work also was given considerable attention. A circular letter was prepared and mailed to 140 farmers in the interest of the work. Meetings with J. O. Tretsven, dairy extension specialist, were also arranged during the week for February 6-9.

The 4-H club work in dairy cattle especially received much encouragement. Office calls and interviews were held on this matter and much interest shown, especially in the Arlee, St. Ignatius, and Round Butte communities. A stock-judging team was selected at Arlee on Friday to attend the Boys' Vocational Congress to be held in Bozeman the following week. The agriculturist found it necessary to decline an invitation from the county school officials to chaperone a group of 15 boys to the Bozeman Congress.

A Cow-Testing Association film entitled "The Conversion of Jonathan Barr" was secured and shown at St. Ignatius and Ronan on Saturday to 140 and 250 people respectively. The local theaters cooperated in both cases.

Poultry culling was demonstrated and 30 hens selected from a flock for a farmer who wants to build up a flock of chickens; 20 hens were rejected. Two sick cows were given attention for farmers.

Eggs sold at 42½ and butterfat at 38 to 40 cents this week, showing a sharp decline. Ranch butter is selling at 37½ cents.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

Practically two days of the week ending January 31 were spent in preparing articles for local papers on cost of raising pigs and pig management.

Mr. W. R. Bolen, district club leader, spent two days with the agriculturist in the interest of calf clubs. One dairy calf club is being organized in Declo community.

Two evening meetings were held — one the Holstein Breeders' Club and the other a community meeting at Claremont in Cassia County.

On Saturday there was a meeting of the Minidoka County Poultry Association, and two demonstrations were given on feeding and management of laying hens — one at the farm of C. A. Jones and the other at Alfred Nelson's. These two flocks have been maintained at steady production — the first at 60 per cent the last three months, and the latter later hatched pullets gradually brought up the production to 60 per cent at the present time. Particular interest in these two flocks is manifest because the first has been held constantly to a high production with no apparent danger to the present time. The second flock has been handled according to the Idaho standard methods of feeding and management and

Minidoka (continued)

brought very gradually into production. These same flocks will be visited later to note results.

John T. Montgomery.

Newlands

During the week ending January 31 two and one-half days were spent at the University of Nevada attending the annual conference of Extension workers in the State. A program of work for the ensuing year was prepared for the Extension workers during this conference.

The vaccination of chickens for chicken-pox has required considerable time this week. Three flocks of chickens and turkeys, numbering in all 700 birds, were vaccinated; and arrangements were made for the vaccination of four more flocks of laying hens, amounting to 1600. Very encouraging reports have been given thus far as a result of the vaccination work.

During the week some time was devoted to helping a rabbit grower solve some of his difficulties. The disease coccidiosis hepatis, which is common among rabbits, has shown up at different times in the breeding pens of the rabbit raisers of this valley and has caused some of them to give up the industry altogether. Since this disease is very easily controlled and as rabbit growing is getting to be quite an important industry locally, this office has tried to acquaint the rabbit growers, wherever opportunity permitted, with this disease, which is so disastrous to the young rabbits. Medication is of no value in the treatment of this disease, but the strictest sanitary measures have been very efficient in controlling it among local growers.

The disease is spread by allowing the feed to become foul with the manure from affected rabbits. Baby rabbits raised in a foul pen where the doe has the disease have a very poor chance of surviving. Under these circumstances the strictest sanitation is necessary.

The rabbit industry has become so important locally that a number of people on small ranches are devoting their entire time to the industry and are reporting very satisfactory returns. The San Francisco market is always ready to take all that are offered at a price ranging around 25 cents per pound hog-dressed. The average rabbit weighs about 2½ pounds when two and one-half to three months of age, depending considerably on the method of feeding and general care. Alfalfa hay furnishes the bulk of the feed.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

During the week ending January 31 a meeting of the Dutch Flats bull club was held. The keeper of the bull made a report on the use that has been made of him during the year. Members of the club used him on about 35 cows. Nine outside cows were bred and either have dropped calves or are safe in calf. Another bull club was organized north of Henry and a young bull bred by the Experiment Farm was delivered. About 40 cows are owned by members of this club.

The demand for good cockerels continues. At the request of

North Platte (continued)

farmers, assistance was given in locating and selecting 34 cockerels this week. Much of the interest in flock improvement this spring may be attributed to the activities of the South Sioux Poultry Association, which was organized the first of the year. Two culling demonstrations were given. About 285 hens were handled and 80 culled out.

Conferences were held this week with the county agents in Morrill and Goshen counties in regard to dealing with local cheese factory promoters who are provoking considerable excitement just now.

One cooperative factory was built in Scotts Bluff county last fall and has been operating since October 6. So far the product has been selling locally at 30 cents a pound for five-pound loaves; and the factory has been paying the patrons 65 to 67 cents a pound for butterfat in the whole milk. So enthusiastic have become some of the members that they are endeavoring to interest every community in building a factory. In cooperation with county agents and working through local chambers of commerce, an effort will be made to check this propaganda and delay the building of other factories, at least until more conclusive data can be obtained from the one factory that is now operating.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

During the week ending January 31 the weather has continued warm and the snow is melting rapidly. Roads are in good condition and hay hauling continues even with hay only $10 baled f.o.b. Powell.

Farmers are looking for poultry breeding stock, especially cockerels. While there are several good flocks on the project, no one has kept cockerels to sell as breeding stock. The most of those available are the immature and poorly developed birds that have not been fit to sell or kill.

A trip was made to Lovell to discuss with the manager of the sugar factory the use of beet pulp and the possibility of getting some for use on the project next year. The feed yards and two poultry plants were visited while there.

Friday I drove to Cody to see what the situation was regarding sheep. The greater part of the lamb crop is reported contracted, the late sales at 12¼ cents. Considerable wool has been contracted, the highest price reported being 43 cents. No old ewes have been contracted so far as could be learned.

O. J. Grace.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XXVI | February 7, 1925 | No. 6

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending February 7 was 55, with a maximum of 67 on the 3rd; the average minimum was 30, with a minimum of 23 on the 2nd. No precipitation was recorded.

The usual routine work of the Farm has been carried on. Additional space in the dairy barn has been provided for four of the young heifers that will freshen this month. Work on the turkey house has been continued.

Two incubators have been started on the first hatching of the heavy breeds -- Rhode Island Reds and Buff Orpingtons. Some very good cockerels from the University stock, coming from 210 to 235-egg hens, have been secured for the breeding pens.

The Great Western Sugar Company has announced the 1925 contract. It is the same in terms as the 1924 contract. It is different from that one, however, in that it will not collect the 3 cents per ton from members of the Beet Growers' Association, which is the assessment levied upon its members by the Association. The Sugar Company also states that it will not solicit acreage from any member of the Association unless the member is first released by the Association.

The average sugar content for beets in this district the past season was 16.44 per cent. There is a rumor that the Holly Sugar Company, which operates in Wyoming and contracts the beets on this project in that State, paid an additional dollar the first of the month and that they are paying on the Billings district sugar content, which is about 16.8 per cent.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

During the few days of warm weather of the week ending February 7 two bands of sheep, numbering a little over 4,000 head, were dipped for sheep scabies, and six other flocks were inspected. County Agent Ellison spent two days at Newell on sheep and club work. Next Monday Dr. Ray of the Livestock Sanitary Board and Dr. Wilson of the Bureau of Animal Industry will be at Newell to investigate the sheep situation. They have promised to leave a federal veterinarian in the field to inspect the sheep and supervise the dipping until the scab is cleaned up.

Two community meetings were attended during the week. Milk tests were run for two farmers and a cream test for another.

Eggs dropped from 45 cents to 30 cents during the week; butterfat advanced one cent, selling for 29 cents at the local cream stations.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

Meetings and other field work accounted for most of the time during the week ending February 7. The Lake County Affiliated Organizations' meeting on Wednesday and the Gopher Campaign Executive Committee meeting the same day were devoted largely to perfecting plans of the gopher extermination campaign. The Lake County Fair and project exhibit were also discussed at the meeting, and Polson was endorsed as the place for the fair. A committee was appointed to meet with the Polson people to get the fair under way.

Two dairy meetings were held the last of the week at Arlee and Round Butte, with Mr. Tretsven, Montana dairy specialist, the chief number on the programs. On Saturday forenoon the directors of the Cow-Testing Association met, and in the afternoon the association held its annual meeting. Mr. Tretsven and Mr. Paisley, cow tester, took part in both meetings, also the agriculturist.

The Cow-Testing Association was reorganized at the meeting Saturday, and this office will assist the directors during the next few weeks to complete the membership, as there are still a number of vacancies. The association work has been very satisfactory and has the support of all those who have been in it the past year, whether or not they have found it possible to continue testing the coming year. The yearly report of the tester will be available in a short time.

Three more farmers have been interested in conducting corn variety tests and another hopes to be able to put in Trebi barley as a result of suggestions from this office.

The need of such trials of barley and corn is brought about by our almost complete lack of grains for feed for our dairy cattle and other livestock. It is planned to have at least six different farmers in various parts of the project conduct corn variety trials with 12 or more varieties found best in other northern sections of the State. The State extension agronomist is lending his support and information in this matter.

One flock of 160 chickens was culled and the culling demonstrated. In an effort to reduce the flock to 50 birds, 71 hens were culled out. Having been laying well and well kept, the hens were of very good quality and it was deemed unwise to cull out enough just now to reduce to 50.

Considerable time was also devoted during the week to conferences and interviews regarding the gopher campaign and interesting the communities in perfecting their community organizations and preparing to conduct an effective campaign. As a result, nearly all of the project communities have taken definite action along this line.

Realizing that the farm women would appreciate suggestions in their lines of endeavor, as well as the men in theirs, and finding an opportunity for Flathead and Lake Counties to cooperate with the State Home Demonstration department in conducting a Mother's Camp, the agriculturist expended some effort the last week to secure information on suitable places near the Flathead Project and acceptable to Flathead County where such a camp might be held. Mrs. Miller, wife of the agriculturist, is actively engaged in this and plans to interest the County Federation of Women's Clubs to take over the active campaign from this office for the project women.

Butterfat is selling at 38 to 40 cents locally; eggs are 42½ cents; ranch butter is 37 cents. The trend is decidedly downward in all the commodities at present.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

During the week ending February 7 one small herd of average grade cows was dispersed at very fair prices, considering the quality of the cattle, just fair grade cows selling for from $75 to $90.

One day was spent inspecting a couple of herds on a neighboring project that local farmers were interested in and wanted an opinion upon one herd of Guernseys and one of Jerseys.

Two days of the week were spent at the Idaho State Seed Show and State Dairymen's meetings. The principal matter of interest to the agriculturist in the Seed Show was some varieties of yellow corn suitable for production on the Minidoka Project and varieties of peas best adapted for hogging off. The quality of corn grown on neighboring projects further down the valley and exhibited at the show was excellent. The best stock peas were exhibited by the Aberdeen Sub-Station. A number of farmers are interested in peas, but have never been able to get sufficient yield to pay very well for use as feed for pigs.

The dairymen's meetings were interesting and fairly well attended considering the condition of the roads.

J. T. Montgomery.

Newlands

The report for the week ending February 7 is as follows:-

Chicken-pox among project flocks continues to require considerable attention. Three flocks containing 1,450 chickens were vaccinated during the week, and vaccine was ordered for 450 more chickens and turkeys.

The Central Cream Testing Laboratory was given some attention this week, and plans were laid for making some changes in facilities and methods of operation. It is planned to build an especially equipped cream testing laboratory convenient to the railroad, where all cream in the vicinity of Fallon will be delivered and all empty cans returned to the farmers. This new arrangement will have to be financed by local dairymen, and plans are being made for this now. The laboratory is functioning nicely, but the work has outgrown the facilities. During the week two articles were contributed to the local papers covering the proposed changes in the cream testing laboratory.

The growing of rabbits for market is getting to be so important locally, and the inquiries regarding rabbit diseases have become so general, that it was thought advisable to prepare an article for the local press covering coccidiosis of the liver and intestines, which is so troublesome to rabbit growers.

Two registered Holstein bulls were placed at the head of dairy herds this week.

L. E. Cline

North Platte

During the week ending February 7 some attention was given to the development of the cheese-making industry of the valley. The one factory that has been operating since October 6 is now turning out about 1400 pounds of cheese a day, and the product is selling locally in 5-pound loaves at 30 cents a pound wholesale. The merchants are retailing it at 40 cents.

North Platte (continued)

Marketing the cheese at this price without any expense has enabled the cooperative factory to pay the farmers 65 to 67 cents a pound for butterfat in the whole milk. In order to get this price, farmers as far out as 15 miles from the factory are hauling in their milk. At the present time, I think, there is no place in the rural districts of the valley where there are as many as 300 dairy cows within a distance of four miles. There are probably less than 300 within that distance of the present factory.

Enthused over the success of the present factory so far, the manager and a few others who were instrumental in organizing it have been advocating the building of ten or eleven other factories in different parts of the valley right away, even before the product of the present factory has been offered on any other than the local market. That seems to be going a little too fast.

Conferences were held this week with the manager and a few of the most influential members of the chambers of commerce with the view of inducing them to delay the organizing of other factories until a thorough investigation has been made of the marketing end of the business. Such an investigation is now being made and active work toward organizing factories is suspended for a time at least.

The South Sioux Poultry Association held their regular monthly meeting on Monday evening. The subject of incubation was discussed. Five of the members gave their experience and led in the discussion. About 200 people were present, and the program was very helpful. At the business session which followed the program a carload of poultry feed was ordered cooperatively. A committee appointed at the January meeting had taken orders from the members and had obtained from local feed dealers bids on the car of feed. The subject of Brooding will be discussed at the March meeting.

Four culling demonstrations were given this week and two breeding pens selected. A total of 790 birds were handled and 125 were discarded.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The week ending February 7 has been warm enough to make the roads soft in places. Farmers are still shipping hay, most of it consigned. Hay dealers are buying very little, if any. The alfalfa mills closed Friday, and it is not certain when they will start again.

Five sales were held on the project last week, and several more are advertised for the near future. Most of the farmers selling are leaving the project. With only 482 farmers on the project on January 1, it is cutting into our population pretty fast.

The Big Horn Marketing Association shipped a car of live poultry, mostly chickens, from the Big Horn Basin last week. About 5,000 pounds were loaded at Powell. This is said to be the first car of live poultry shipped from the Basin.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

During the week ending January 31 two flocks of poultry were culled to select breeding pens. Both flocks were found to be badly infested with lice, and directions were given for cleaning them.

Time was given to preliminary arrangements for a farmers' short course to be held in Montrose on February 6 and 7. This course is being put on by the International Harvester Company, and all organizations are asked to cooperate in making it as profitable as possible. The agriculturist was elected as executive chairman at the first meeting during his absence with the advance man.

Montrose has been under a strict quarantine throughout this week on account of the presence of diphtheria among school children, all meetings of any kind being forbidden. This made it difficult to make proper arrangements for the short course, but a meeting is planned of all committees as soon as the quarantine is lifted. A circular letter and program were prepared and sent out on all rural routes.

Blood samples were taken in a flock of White Leghorns in which white diarrhea is suspected and mailed to the Agricultural College for test. This disease is becoming prevalent and serious in the State, although no cases are known to exist on the project. Through publicity and otherwise an effort is being made to warn all who plan to buy baby chicks against the disease so that they will buy from tested flocks only.

Milk tests were run on seven dairy herds. A meeting of directors of the poultry association was held to check over the records of the show held early in January, and some time in the office was required for this work.

A number of lambs are already reported from the ewes which were brought in from Idaho.

D. W. Thomas, Commissioner of Agriculture for the Denver Chamber of Commerce, was in Montrose this week to confer with the agriculturist and county agent relative to the State ton-litter contest. The Denver Chamber of Commerce is promoting the contest by giving in each county which puts up a like amount $50, to be awarded as premiums for litters of pigs making 2,000 pounds or over at six months of age.

Markets: Alfalfa, $8.00, $9.00; barley, $2.00 cwt.; corn, $2.80 cwt., home grown; oats, $1.75 cwt.; wheat, $2.75 to $2.90 cwt.; potatoes, 70 cents; onions, $2.60 to $3.00; butterfat, 34 cents; eggs, 60 cents; hens, 8 to 12 cents; beef cattle, top Denver, $9.00; hogs, top-Denver, $10.60; sheep, top Denver, $17.25.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS.

Vol. XXVI | February 14, 1925 | No. 7

Western Irrigation Agriculture

San Antonio

Report for four weeks ending February 14:

The following table gives a weekly summary of the climatological data recorded during the four weeks ending February 14.

Week ending	Temperature Max.	Min.	G.D.R.	Precipitation	Sky (number of days) Clear	Partly cloudy	Cloudy
Jan. 24	71	24	38	None	7	0	0
" 31	77	19	49	Trace	6	1	0
Feb. 7	83	35	34	.03	6	1	0
" 14	78	26	43	None	6	0	1

Temperatures throughout January were below normal, the mean for the month being 48.8 as compared with an average mean January temperature for 19 years, 1907 to 1925 inclusive, of 51.8. Total precipitation during January was 0.20 inch. Dry winds, which have occurred throughout the past two months, have dissipated a large percentage of the moisture in the upper soil, and the ground is now cracking badly in flax and small grain fields. These crops have made very meager growth.

The warm weather of the past few days has forced the fruit trees into early growth and many apricot, almond, nectarine, plum, and peach trees have started blooming.

In addition to miscellaneous maintenance jobs, the following work has been performed: Barnyard manure applied to orchards and vineyards on A-1 and B-3; orchard A-1 and grapes on A-3 and B-3 pruned; eleven rotation plats plowed and two subsoiled; approximately three acres of pasture in field D-4 plowed; and portions of field D-4 heavily infested with Johnson grass rootstocks spring-tooth harrowed. A cesspool 8 feet by 8 feet was built at the laborer's cottage.

Dr. O. F. Cook and Mr. A. D. Harvey, of the Office of Crop Acclimatization, were station visitors on February 11.

Geo. T. Ratliffe.

Scottsbluff

The maximum average temperature for the week ending February 14 was 46, with a maximum of 59 on the 11th; the minimum average was 19, with a minimum of 9 on the 10th. No precipitation was recorded.

The usual routine work of the Farm has been carried on. The weather remains ideal for feeding operations.

The shipping of stock to market has reached such a volume that the Burlington has put on another stock train, which leaves the valley on Mondays and gets to market for the middle of the week run. It will have a tendency to distribute the run from this section. Many of the lamb feeders who have been on the market have been clearing as high as $5.00 per lamb.

Scottsbluff (continued)

This week the Station shipped two pens of old ewes that have been on a test comparing potatoes and silage. They had made good gains and were in good condition. A pen of lambs that had been used in harvesting some corn plats were also shipped with the ewes.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects.

Belle Fourche

Practically the entire week ending February 14 was spent in the field on work in connection with the sheep scab situation. On Monday Dr. M. W. Ray, State veterinarian; Dr. J. O. Wilson, chief inspector of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry for South Dakota; and Dr. C. F. Harrington, assistant Federal inspector, held two meetings with the sheep men. It was decided at these meetings to have all the sheep of the project inspected by Federal veterinarians and then to quarantine all exposed and infected yards and sheep.

During the week 63 flocks of sheep were inspected in the Newell territory and 15 quarantines placed. In the Vale territory 42 bands of sheep were inspected and two quarantines placed. Dr. C. C. Heacock inspected the sheep around Vale and Dr. Harrington inspected them around Newell. These veterinarians will be in the field until all the sheep from Nisland, Horsecreek, and Arpan are inspected. Dipping will follow as soon as the weather permits, with two competent vat inspectors in charge.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

The weather was agreeable and continued below freezing temperature the entire week ending February 14. Plowing that had been started the previous week was discontinued.

Most of the time this week was used in some phase of Cow-Testing Association activity. Association data was tabulated in cooperation with C. J. Paisley, cow tester. Prospective members were interviewed and the association work was discussed at meetings.

The dairy meetings started last week with Mr. Tretsven, State dairy extension specialist, were concluded on Monday. Gopher campaign meetings were held on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. The Lake County and Flathead Project fair committee met on Tuesday and discussed the matter with the Polson Kiwanis, which organization will take charge of the fair for 1925.

Seven samples of milk were tested for one rancher; a pig posted and worms and pneumonia demonstrated; irrigated pasture mixtures were given to four ranchers; one more rancher was interested in conducting corn variety trials; trench silo information was given to three farmers; one farmer was assisted in locating purebred Shorthorns; further information on Mothers' Camp sites was secured, and efforts were made to get local people at Polson and Ronan to proceed to organize these two communities to "Go For The Gopher."

Five press articles totaling 1970 words were prepared for project papers and one article of 50 words for a State farm paper.

Flathead (continued)

Thirteen different corn varieties were ordered from various counties of northern Montana for use in the corn variety trials.

Butterfat sold for 34 and 36 cents at collecting stations, ranch butter at 37 cents, and eggs at 35 cents.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

The principal part of the time during the week ending February 14 was devoted to preparation for the poultry school to be held on the 21st and 23rd of the month at Rupert.

One day was spent examining a herd of Jersey cattle on Twin Falls Project, which are for sale. It is hoped that some of them can be brought to Minidoka Project.

One breeding flock of White Leghorns was mated for a settler, and considerable time was spent on Calf Club matters developing a purebred calf club in Declo community.

Two news articles were prepared for the local papers.

John T. Montgomery.

Newlands

The report for the week ending February 14 is as follows:

Weather conditions for the Newlands Project have been especially favorable for the past few weeks. There has been very little freezing weather since the first of the year. This has enabled the farmers to work their land. The leveling of new land and the preparation of grain land has been going on continuously through most of the winter.

The farmers of the project have been quite anxious about the water supply until the past thirty days, but during this time heavy storms have brought the precipitation to about normal in the mountains. It is now generally believed that there will be no shortage of water in any part of the project this coming season. Lake Tahoe, which was lowered below the outlet into the Truckee River by pumping during the previous summer, is now discharging a good flow of water into the river. This has greatly encouraged the Fernley bench farmers, who depend on the Truckee River for their water supply.

During the past week several inquiries were answered regarding sterility in dairy cows, and in two cases the lugal irrigation treatment was given. These treatments have proven beneficial in a large number of cases and have saved many of the project cows from being sent to the butcher. The opinion, however, is becoming very general that sterility in high-producing cows can be attributed to a shortage of minerals in the body. Experiments are verifying this theory. The large number of sterility cases in dairy herds, where corral feeding on cured feeds is practiced, indicates that there must be something wrong with the animal's nutrition. Grass pastures, and in addition a mineral ration fed as a supplement to alfalfa hay, is suggested as a remedy for breeding troubles. This will be advocated on the Newlands Project this year. From a feeding standpoint grass pastures are an advantage because they cut down the labor in harvesting and feeding.

During the week one farmers' meeting was attended and a talk was given on turkey production.

Newlands (continued)

The following prices prevailed locally for farm products during the week: Butterfat, 47 to 48½ cents; wheat, $60 a ton; corn, $65; alfalfa hay, $10 in the stack; potatoes, $35; eggs, 25 cents a dozen.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

During the week ending February 14 some time was devoted to getting started with testing the cows in the Sheep Creek bull club. The members are weighing the milk, and samples will be tested each month. At the same time that visits are made to farmers to collect samples assistance will be given with feeding problems, etc. Records will be started in some of the other clubs at an early date.

Three members of the South Sioux Poultry Association have put in Mammoth incubators. The machines were installed this week, and in cooperation with Mr. McNeese, poultry specialist in Wyoming, two incubator demonstrations were given. Mr. McNeese also gave a turkey-judging demonstration on the Nebraska side. About 55 people attended the demonstrations.

Two breeding pens were selected this week and two culling demonstrations were given. A total of 375 hens were handled and 110 were discarded.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The greater part of the first five days of the week ending February 14 was spent in attending the sheep and wool schools in the county. Dean J. A. Hill and extension specialist D. J. Robertson, of the University of Wyoming, conducted a sheep and wool school at Powell on Monday and Wednesday, discussing grades and grading of wool, prices of sheep, breeding and feeding. On Tuesday a tour of the farms close to Powell where sheep are kept was made, and demonstrations in culling for wool and mutton were given. About 35 farmers attended the lectures and 65 the tour. While the attendance was not large, every one present was interested and attentive.

After the meeting conducted by the Extension Service, a meeting was held in this office to make plans for buying ewes. Fourteen farmers were present, and they chose one of their number to buy for the group. Approximately 1400 ewes will be contracted by this group, if they can be purchased at a reasonable price. It is expected that good broken-mouthed ewes will cost $6.00 to $6.50 per head.

I attended the sheep and wool school and tour on Sage Creek on Thursday and Friday.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

The week ending February 7 has been largely taken up with meetings of various kinds. On Monday a meeting of committeemen was held to complete arrangements for a short course to be held the last two days of the week by the Extension Department of the International Harvester Company in

Uncompahgre (continued)

cooperation with various local organizations. Three sessions daily for two days were provided for, and the meetings were thoroughly advertised. The Friday sessions were quite well attended in spite of the fact that all roads were in bad condition due to a recent thaw. Friday night a six-inch fall of wet snow made roads nearly impassable and the attendance, especially at the forenoon session, was light. The program, arranged by a local committee, included discussions of dairying, horticulture, potato growing, cooperative marketing, alfalfa growing, better sires, boys'and girls' clubs, and women's work, with motion pictures at each session. The representatives of the Harvester Company pronounced the meetings satisfactory compared with meetings in other places, weather conditions considered. Comment by local parties, as far as heard, was also favorable.

The annual meeting of the Water Users' Association, held on Tuesday, was given over to a discussion of the recent Denver conference and election of officers. The results of the Denver conference seem to be generally satisfactory to the water users of the Uncompahgre Project.

At Delta on Wednesday the annual business meeting of the Western Colorado Poultry Association was held to elect officers and directors, set dates for the next show, etc.

A report received on blood samples that were sent to the Agricultural College for test for white diarrhea of poultry showed all tests negative. A flock of hens was examined and indications of cholera found. A course of sanitation was prescribed.

Milk samples were tested for one dairyman.

Local markets have not changed materially since last report.

On Monday of the week ending February 14 a trip was made to Delta with a farmer from Montrose to see a four-year-old Holstein bull that was offered for sale. The bull was bought for $60 which was $10 more than the same animal brought two years ago. This bull's sire was second in the class at the National Dairy Show and is from a cow with a four-year-old record of 34 pounds of butter in seven days and over 1000 pounds of butter in a year. He goes to a herd that has been headed by a registered bull that was recently sold to another man on the Project. Two purebred cockerels were placed in farm flocks on the same trip.

Three flocks of poultry were culled during the week. One of these was a very good flock that has been producing all winter; and another, on an adjoining farm, has been entirely unproductive due to improper feeding and lice. The third was a flock of a new breeder for whom breeding pens were selected.

H. R. Lascelles, fieldman in the office of the State Dairy Commissioner, visited Montrose and Delta Counties this week, spending the entire week with the local county agent and the project agriculturist. In Montrose County he visited a number of farmers to present a plan for a cow-testing club, and in Delta a series of meetings were held at which dairy feeding and pastures were discussed. At two of these meetings a great deal of interest was expressed in pastures, and a number of seedings are expected as a result.

The farms of three poultry demonstrators were visited in Delta County.

Markets: There has been little change in grains since last report. Butterfat remains at 35 cents. Eggs have dropped to 30 cents. Beef steers were quoted as high as $9.15, the season's peak at Denver, hogs at $11.10, and fat lambs at $16.90.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS.

Vol. XXVI | February 21, 1925 | No. 8

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending February 21 was 50, with a maximum of 62 on the 21st; the average minimum was 20, with a minimum of 15 on the 17th. No precipitation was recorded.

The work of the week has consisted in finishing up the concrete floors in the dairy barn, excavating for basement under the messhouse, hauling manure to Field III-C, and other miscellaneous work. The hog house has been cleaned and disinfected and the sows moved in for farrowing.

One of the test pens of breeding ewes was moved into the shed for lambing. The farm flock of Hampshire ewes are about through lambing, with 150 per cent lamb crop.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects.

Belle Fourche

During the week ending February 21 with two Federal veterinarians in the field all the sheep of the project and of the surrounding tributary country have been examined for scabies. The situation while bad is not as serious and spread as generally as was at first thought. All diseased sheep are located on the project, which will facilitate dipping. Scabies is evident in 11 bands of sheep. These bands have been quarantined as have five yards which are infected. Dipping will begin as soon as the weather permits and will be supervised by Federal inspectors. The situation has improved remarkably since last fall when nearly 25 bands of sheep showed scabies. Dipping during the fall and winter has cleaned up half the infected bands and also proved that proper dipping will eradicate the disease. Now with efficient supervision of all dipping vats there is no reason why scabies cannot be totally eradicated from all the sheep before summer.

Butterfat is bringing 30 cents per pound at the local cream stations; eggs, 22 cents per dozen. The retail price of creamery butter is 50 cents per pound, and dairy butter sells for 45 cents per pound.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

Practically the entire week ending February 21 was spent in the field making farm calls and interviewing farmers to interest them in signing the cow-testing association agreement; community meetings where the cow-testing association work, gopher campaign, corn variety trials, etc., were discussed and such action taken as the opportunity afforded. A culling demonstration was given in which 110 chickens were tested and 57 removed. Twenty-four poultry bulletins were distributed at the same

Flathead (continued)

meeting.

The weather continues warm and the roads are becoming dry though quite rough.

On Monday, J. O. Tretsven, State dairy specialist, accompanied the agriculturist to the Jocko Valley to make farm calls in the interest of the cow-testing association. Two additional members were secured and two more good prospects were located. Various questions as to stalls, silos, stanchions, feeds, poultry mating, etc., were given attention during farm calls.

A meeting of the Ronan people was called in an attempt to get the community locally interested in getting together on local problems, but, in accord with tradition, progress along this line was very limited. Pablo community was organized during the week, and also Reservoir Valley, to conduct a gopher eradication campaign.

The gopher eradication campaign has the cooperation of the Biological Survey, which will send a man to superintend the mixing and distribution of poison. Mr. Stephl, leader of Rodent Control, Bozeman, Montana, has furnished much valuable information and many good suggestions. He is being kept informed of the progress locally. The local campaign is following closely suggestions from his office.

No. 1 sour butterfat is 36 to 39 cents; sweet cream is two cents higher. Prices are those paid at Ronan, as are those regularly reported herein. Eggs ranged from 35 cents to 25 cents during the week.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

Considerable of the agriculturist's time for the week ending February 21 was devoted to the organization of the Declo Calf Club and finding calves suitable for this Project. The boys have decided to buy purebred calves, and they are going into the club with the intention of carrying on the work for four or five years.

Some time was spent preparing for the poultry school which was held at the end of the week. The Saturday's attendance of 70 proved somewhat disappointing, but both sessions were interesting. A new departure in the way of a program was the basket dinner. The instructional part of the program was carried on by Mr. Pren Moore of the Idaho College of Agriculture. The agriculturist spoke on the poultry outlook for 1925.

We have had a week of very fine weather. The lamb crop is coming along fine. Farmers have begun preparations for spring work. A few have begun leveling and plowing.

J. T. Montgomery.

Newlands

The report for the week ending February 21 is as follows:

A community pasture organization which was organized in the Harmon district last year for the purpose of leasing a section of overflow land from the Reclamation Service is making further plans for improving the carrying capacity of this pasture. A good share of this land is flooded much of the summer with waste water, and upon the suggestion of this office the organization has ordered a quantity of water grass seed from the

Newlands (continued)

rice mills of California for the purpose of seeding this overflow land. This water grass is a very troublesome weed for the rice grower, but it yields heavy in seed and forage; and it is hoped that the carrying capacity of this overflow land will be greatly increased by seeding it to this grass. One farmer of the same district has also ordered a quantity of this seed for planting on some land which is subject to overflow. These experiments will be carefully watched and if the plantings are successful. there will no doubt be considerable areas of low and flooded alkali lands planted to this pasture crop.

During the past week one article was prepared for the local press on the subject of corn growing on the project. The corn crop last year was quite successful. A number of varieties matured and yielded well, and it is hoped that the corn acreage will be considerably increased this year

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

Fifty-six samples of milk from the cows in two bull clubs were collected and tested during the week ending February 21. Tests will be made each month and a complete record kept of each cow during the year. Members of the clubs will be supplied with copies of the records. As soon as the daughters of these cows sired by the club bulls reach producing age they will be tested also and their records compared with the records of their dams. The plan will be not only to test the milk and keep production records, but also to discuss with the club members individually and in groups the advantages of proper feeding and care.

Culling demonstrations were given on five farms this week, and two breeding pens were selected. A total of 928 hens were handled and 185 were discarded. Culling demonstrations seem to be one of the very best ways of stimulating interest in poultry.

A 500-word article on bull clubs and building up dairy herds was prepared for the local press.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The report for the week ending February 21 is as follows:

A two-day poultry school was held by the State Extension Service in Powell on the 20th and 21st. The first day was devoted to turkeys, and the specialist discussed selecting, mating, incubation, and feeding. About 125 people were present, and a great deal of interest was taken in the discussion. The second day was devoted to chickens, and almost as much interest was taken in the chicken meeting. In the evening the motion picture, "The Wooly West" was shown. It attracted a large crowd, partly because it was taken in this county and the "old timer" is a well known sheep man.

I attended two of the largest sales that will be held on the Project this year. Machinery and furniture sell fairly well. Horses and cattle are slow. The best team of mules that I have seen sold this year brought $250 for the team, and the best team of horses $180. Fairly good milk cows sell at $40 to $50.

Both alfalfa mills are closed. Standard alfalfa hay is selling for $8.00 f.o.b. Powell. A great many farmers have very little stock and must sell their hay. Some hay will probably be held over.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

During the week ending February 21 milk tests were run on seven herds and production records computed. Several men, as well as members of agricultural classes of local high school, were interviewed relative to forming a cow-testing club in which the high school boys would act in the same capacity as the tester of a regular cow-testing association, except that each boy would be responsible for but one herd and all testing would be done under supervision. A small fee would be charged for each cow tested, the money raised to be paid the boys doing the work. Six men have signified that they would take up the plan if boys can be found to carry it on. Men already keeping records in cooperation with this office, as far as they have been interviewed, have expressed a preference for the present plan.

The annual meeting of the local Wool Growers' Association was attended. Officers and directors were elected and matters of current interest discussed. The assistance of this office was requested in interesting owners of small farm flocks of sheep to affiliate with the association, which some of them have already agreed to do.

A meeting of local seed dealers was attended by request to discuss pasture grass mixtures, etc. The dealers voluntarily decided to cooperate in making a special price during the month of April on the five varieties of pasture grasses contained in the "Morton pasture grass mixture" as an inducement to farmers to seed pastures and to use this particular mixture.

The annual Corn and Potato Show was held at Olathe on Friday and Saturday, a one-day farmers' institute being held in connection with the show, at which the demonstration agent was asked to discuss cow testing in relation to improvement of dairy cattle. Extremely bad roads cut down both attendance and exhibits at the show, but in spite of this the event was considered quite successful.

A visit was made to a hatchery which is being established in the Olathe section. A large electric incubator is being installed and several smaller machines are in operation. The owner is trying to secure eggs from only the best purebred flocks, planning to contract with flock owners that they use the best males obtainable. Prices asked for chicks are 15 and 16 cents. Orders are being received faster than eggs can be secured and prospects are good for a successful business, which will be a real asset to the Project as there has been a strong demand for chicks which has been filled heretofore from outside points. One poultry demonstrator was visited and arrangements made to select his breeding pens.

Arrangements were also made to start dairy records with a dairyman near Delta.

Markets are about the same as last report, except that eggs have dropped to 25 cents and hogs have advanced to around $11.25 at Denver. Butterfat in first-grade cream has held at 35 cents since the first of the month. A letter from Mr. Cline gives butterfat prices on the Newlands Project as 47 cents to 48½ cents on February 9 to 14, which seems like too great a difference in favor of Newlands dairymen. A reason for the difference is not assigned.

H. A. Ireland

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XXVI | February 28, 1925 | No. 9

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending February 28 was 44, with a maximum of 59 on the 23rd; the average minimum was 18, with a minimum of 8 on the 27th. There were several snow flurries and a light shower of rain on the 22nd. The precipitation amounted to 0.03 inch

There is very little frost in the ground, and some plowing is being done. The ground is very dry.

The usual routine work of the Farm has been carried on. The sows commenced farrowing the first of the week, and owing to favorable weather and careful watching a large percentage of pigs have been saved.

The negotiations between the Sugar Company and the Beet Growers' Association remains at a deadlock. The Nebraska district organization of the growers have been waiting for the outcome of the Denver conference. They are claiming, however, that they have signed up many new members.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

During the week ending February 28 thawing and warm weather softened the roads, bringing considerable frost from the ground and making travel by automobile very impracticable. Nearly the entire week was spent in office work on records, matters pertaining to the dipping of sheep, and getting a carload of lime and sulphur subscribed for. A circular letter was mailed to the sheepmen, and one article was written for publication.

Three registered Rambouillet bred ewes were selected for members of a sheep club. Two club meetings were planned for the coming week and programs prepared. Upon request, twelve cockerels were selected for three different farmers.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

Considerable time during the week ending February 28 was spent in connection with the cow-testing association work. One day was used in going to Missoula where two members, having farms in the Jocko Valley, were signed up for the year. Conferences in connection with camp sites for Mothers' Camp and to make arrangements to secure properly prepared oats for gopher poison were also held the same day. The agriculturist is also assisting with the annual report data.

The weather continues warm with practically all frost out of the ground.

A flock of 126 birds was culled and divided as follows: breeding pen, 31; laying flock, 61; and culls, 34. Male birds were also selected

Flathead (continued)

for the breeding per.

Two farmers' meetings were attended and the cow-testing association work discussed. The irrigated pasture project and grain feed raising project were presented to one meeting and made a part of the program of that Farm Bureau. Gopher campaign work was also discussed and information on details of organization and procedure given out.

The 1925 Fair and the meeting of the Lake County Affiliated Organizations were given attention during the week. Information was given F. E. Benson, Northern Pacific Immigration Agent, for a Flathead Project leaflet.

Butterfat raised 3 cents over last week, No. 1 sour bringing 39 and 42 cents locally. Eggs went still lower to 22½ cents a dozen.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

Two days of the week ending February 28 were spent trying to secure purebred calves for the boys' calf club, which presents some difficulties in this community because local owners of suitable calves wish to keep them in their own herds, and about the same conditions were found in the neighboring counties of Twin Falls, Jerome, and Gooding.

Monday's session at the poultry school was a little better attended; 73 people were present. Mr. Moore discussed the application of the newer knowledge of nutrition, particularly the feeding value of yellow corn, in relation to the poultry business. An egg lunch was served by the poultry growers and much enjoyed.

The office has received many requests for knowledge on poultry matters and is assured of the entire cooperation of the poultry department of the State of Idaho, which is continuing the cost account project on representative poultry flocks, two of which are located on this Project.

Weather conditions are excellent, and farmers are beginning spring work. Plowing is getting under way. Moisture conditions are better than last year. The beet crop acreage being signed up is good to date. The factory anticipates five thousand acres on the north side of Minidoka Project and an equal or greater acreage on the south side.

Inquiries for seed corn are numerous, indicating an increased acreage in corn this year. Much interest is being taken in the cooperative feeding value of corn and other home grown feeds and the relative feeding value of Idaho and Eastern-grown corn. Idaho Station reports Idaho corn the equal of corn grown in the Central States.

J. T. Montgomery.

North Platte

The week ending February 28 was farrowing time at the Experiment Farm, and it was necessary to spend considerable time there taking care of the sows. A new man was also started in the dairy work. The annual meeting of the Scotts Bluff County Farm Bureau was attended on Tuesday. Officers were elected, club demonstrations were given, agents reported, and the program of work was outlined and discussed.

At the request of County Agent Nelson of Morrill County, a conference was held with him at Minatare Saturday evening in regard to helping him with some poultry and dairy meetings in March.

North Platte (continued)

Two culling demonstrations were given this week. A total of 410 hens were handled and 75 were discarded as unprofitable.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The first two days of the week ending February 28 were spent in assembling and loading a cooperative shipment of one car of sheep and a car of cattle consigned by 18 farmers. The sheep were lambs which had been on feed a short time, but they will sell in Omaha as feeders. The cattle were cows and three bulls, most of them in fairly good condition.

A trip was made to Meeteetse with the farmer who was selected to buy the ewes on the pooled orders. Sheepmen have not put a price on their broken-mouthed ewes for fall delivery. Lambs have been contracted at 11 to 12½ cents and the greater part of the wool at 40 to 43 cents per pound. They are talking $8 to $10 for old ewes this fall. As long as they feel that optimistic I do not believe that many farmers on the Project will buy sheep. We heard of a band of 1000 old ewes which were priced at $12 and went to see them the next day, but they had already been sold for March delivery. They were mostly broken-mouthed ewes culled from the range flocks last fall. Sheep on the ranges are in good condition. About half of them will be lambed in sheds, several bands starting the first of March.

O. J. Grace.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | March 7, 1925 | No. 10

Western Irrigation Agriculture

San Antonio

During the twenty-one day period ending March 7 the following meteorological data have been recorded: Temperatures, maximum 87 on March 4, minimum 34 on February 27 and March 1; greatest daily range 41 on February 25; precipitation, trace February 15, .03 inch February 22; fifteen days with clear sky and six days cloudy.

No rain of consequence has fallen in this region since December 2, and the upper soil on land of all types of cultural treatments is so dry that corn planting is impractical. A very few farmers have planted in dry soil in the hope of securing an earlier emergence when rainfall comes. The probability of having this seed destroyed by birds, rodents, and insects, and the resultant poor stands, makes the advisability of this practice doubtful.

It is believed that Johnson grass eradication on several heavily infested fields on the station has been greatly advanced by frequent deep cultivation with the disk and spring-tooth harrows.

A planting of Cynadon incompletus (a Bermuda grass which has shown considerable promise in our grass nursery) was made February 17 and 18 in the pasture east of the farm buildings. Sections of the grass were scattered at frequent intervals in furrows and covered by back-furrowing. A temporary fence was erected around this plat; and if a stand is secured, the value of the grass for use in dry-land pasture will be studied.

Work done on the station has included the pruning of orchards, vineyards, and ornamentals; spreading compost on the farmstead lawn; disking all rotation plats to be planted to corn; disking fields C3, C5, D3, and F3; straightening the cement-post fence along the west side of the farm; making garden and nursery plantings; building new cess pools at the farm residence and laborer's cottage; rebuilding and repairing machinery sheds; taking soil samples in oat plats; and grinding feed.

Geo. T. Ratliffe.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects.

Belle Fourche

One day of the week ending March 7 was spent with C. H. Pickarts, of the Squire Dingee Pickle Company of Chicago, in going over the pickle situation on the project. Mr. Pickarts believes that his company will have, at least, two salting and buying stations in the Belle Fourche Valley in time for the 1925 crop.

Part of one day was spent with Dr. Dunn, our local veterinarian, in tubercular testing work; two community meetings were attended and one club meeting; one flock of poultry was culled, and a breeding pen selected; and butterfat tests were run for two dairymen.

With practically all the seed corn from the 1924 crop of corn

Belle Fourche (continued)

showing a germination test below 85 per cent, new sources of seed corn have been found. Several lots of selected 1923 corn, testing 95 per cent and better, have been located. Germination tests for six farmers were made during the week, and in all cases the germination was weak. The poor germinating qualities of the 1924 crop of corn are now generally understood. The local seed dealers are having all their corn tested; and they hope to obtain a sufficient supply of 1923 seed, grown locally, to supply the needs during the coming spring.

F. E. Miller.

Newlands

The report for the week ending March 7 is as follows:

The articles prepared and published recently in the local papers by this office on the subjects of breeding troubles and mineral rations for dairy cattle have brought forth considerable discussion. Three of the local retail stores have laid in a supply of steamed bone flour, and they report many sales to the dairymen. Some of the dairymen feed this bone flour in a mineral mixture consisting of bone flour, wood ashes, and air slaked lime; some feed the bone flour alone. Attention has been called to herds with abnormal appetites that readily eat the above mineral mixture mentioned, while some herds will not eat the mineral mixture or bone flour unless it is mixed with a little ground feed.

It will be of considerable interest to dairymen of this valley to observe the results that are obtained along the line of relief for breeding troubles with the use of these mineral rations.

The local cream-testing laboratory has been working so nicely that it has attracted attention from dairymen of other parts of Western Nevada; and a bill has just recently been passed by the State Legislature extending the powers of the State Food and Drug Commissioner, authorizing him to establish other central cream-testing laboratories and providing a revolving fund of $4,000 to expedite the work.

The first expenditure money will no doubt be at Yerington for the erection and equipment of a modern cream-testing laboratory to take the place of the inadequate quarters used at the present time.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

During the week ending March 7 the leading Poland-China breeder of the valley held his annual bred sow sale. Sows bred to farrow soon sold very well, averaging a little over $40. A few open gilts sold for but little more than market price.

Hogs are getting scarce locally; and with market prices going higher, there is a disposition among farmers to hold on to the breeding stock they have and to buy a few shoats when they can find any for sale.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Sioux Poultry Association was held Monday evening. The subject for discussion was feeding chicks. Mrs. Morrow, who operates a small hatchery north of Torrington, was the principal speaker, and her talk was very much appreciated. More than 100 people were in attendance. Chick feeding bulletins from both the Nebraska and Wisconsin stations were distributed. At the business session which

North Platte (continued)

followed the program a committee was appointed to order for the association 200 sacks of oyster shell,

At the April meeting which will be held at Henry, Dr. Geo. H. Glover of Fort Collins, Colorado, has consented to be present and discuss poultry diseases.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

During the week ending March 7 seventeen samples of milk were tested for four farmers living near Deaver. Four others are somewhat interested, and it is hoped that these eight farmers will test their cows regularly each month.

We have received the returns on the cattle and the sheep shipped on February 24, and they were much more satisfactory than on any shipment previously made. One reason was that they were in fairly good condition and a fairly uniform lot. Another shipment will probably be made soon. We have been shipping anything that the farmers listed, but in the future no bulls will be shipped with the cows except one shipment in the fall or winter. It takes nearly a week to get to market from here, and the bulls do more damage in a mixed car than they are worth.

Farmers are doing considerable field work. Frost is out of the ground deep enough to permit plowing to be done. The soil is very dry, and the alfalfa land will need irrigating before it can be worked.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

During the week ending February 28 blood samples were taken from a flock of White Leghorns near Delta to test for White Diarrhoea. This is an exceptionally good flock. No disease is suspected, but the owner wishes to be sure that the flock is clean. Two other flocks were culled.

A trip was made to Grand Junction the latter part of the week with a Delta County farmer to select a Jersey bull. Several of the best Jersey herds were visited; and a five-months' old calf, well bred and of good type, was secured. The same man has asked to have his herd put on the regular monthly milk test, and he plans to seed a pasture as soon as he can do so. A number of cows listed for sale at Grand Junction were inspected for men at Montrose who wish to buy cows, and other bulls were examined for a man at Delta who wants to make an exchange.

Barn plans were furnished a dairyman near Delta, who expects to build as soon as financial conditions will permit. This man has acquired a small herd of purebred dairy cows and has started a small acreage of pasture.

The only change in market quotations of any consequence this week is the advance on hogs, the Denver price having passed 12 cents.

Poultry work has occupied a large portion of the time during the week ending March 7. The demand for culling continues to be heavy at this time of the year in spite of the emphasis that has always been put on fall culling. Calls for this work are answered whenever possible, as it gives opportunity to stress the necessity of selecting and separating

Uncompahgre (continued)

breeding pens, of treating flocks for lice, which are prevalent in practically every flock, and of checking up on feeding operations. Eight flocks have been inspected during the week, and blood samples were taken from one flock for White Diarrhoea test. A report on the samples sent to the State Agricultural College for test last week showed three reactors. A number of calls were made in the interest of a poultry club in a district where this work has never been undertaken.

One of the largest dairies of the project was offered for sale this week. The cows are principally registered Guernseys. Another local dairyman was taken to see the herd and shown records of the individual cows, the herd having been on test through this office for the past year as well as holding a number of official records. The sale of all the producing stock was effected at once, and the young stock will be sold at public auction next week. The former owner is leaving the project to engage in business in Denver. A shipment of purebred Milking Shorthorns, just brought into the project from the Eastern Slope of Colorado, was inspected, and the owner was advised regarding treatment of these and other cattle on the place for lice, which he had just discovered. This man has recently built a large (for this country) barn and silo and is installing a milking machine.

A Delta dairyman was advised regarding a purebred Jersey bull in which he was interested and which he will probably secure. Assistance was requested in making a proposed shipment of dairy cattle from Iowa, where some attractive prices are being made on a Jersey herd said to be of high quality. Correspondence has been started to learn more about the stock from disinterested parties. Another man near Delta is contemplating the establishment of a large dairy to supply the greater part of the milk for the city of Delta and has asked assistance in buying stock and equipment.

Markets: Barley, $2.00 cwt; corn, native, $2.80 cwt.; oats, $2.00; wheat, $2.80 to $2.90 cwt.; potatoes, 70¢ cwt.; onions, $2.65 to $3.00 cwt.; butterfat, 35¢ lb. in first-grade cream; eggs, 25¢ doz.; beef cattle, top Denver, $10.00; hogs, top Denver, $14.25; sheep, top Denver, $16.90.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | March 14, 1925 | No. 11

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending March 14 was 38 degrees, with a maximum of 48 on the 12th; the average minimum was 14 degrees, with a minimum of 3 below on the morning of the 14th. This drop in temperature was accompanied by high winds and a snowfall varying from 1½ to 4 inches throughout the Valley. No stock loss has been reported from it.

The third year of the lamb-feeding test was concluded during the week; the lambs were weighed, and data is being prepared for lamb feeders' day, which will be on March 17. A summary of the results will follow as soon as compiled.

Work was begun on an addition to the mess house this week. The hauling of manure to Field III-C and the grass pastures has been continued. Considerable plowing has been done in the Valley, and some grain has been seeded.

There are no new developments in the beet-growing controversy. Each side refuses to make concessions. It is understood that the business men of some of the towns are contemplating the initiation of some method to secure the release of the members from the Association so that they may grow beets, the Sugar Company having refused to accept contracts from a member.

The Superintendent returned from Washington the first of the week.

James A. Holden.

Yuma

The temperature for the week ending March 14 was recorded as follows: Maximum 74°, minimum 30°, greatest daily range 41°, precipitation .03. The temperature of 30° reported on March 13 did not cause any appreciable damage to crops on the Project. While some cotton had already been planted, it seemed to have escaped serious injury.

At the present time considerable acreage is being irrigated preparatory to planting, with probably the bulk of the 1925 cotton to be planted about the first of April. From reports secured it seems probable that the cotton acreage for this year will not be materially increased. There seems to be a more definite program of rotating cotton with alfalfa. An increase in the acreage of watermelons and cantaloupes will also tend to minimize any expansion in the cotton plantings.

The past winter season has been quite successful to lettuce growers. Approximately 170 cars have been marketed to date.

Winter prices for alfalfa have averaged around $22 to $25 per ton, f.o.b. Yuma. Prices are somewhat lower at present, as the first cutting of alfalfa hay is now being harvested.

Station work performed during the last week has consisted of harvesting the first cutting of alfalfa on the irrigated rotations; pruning date palms to eradicate the graphiola fungus; pollenating date palms; and

Yuma (continued)

general irrigating.

Barley and wheat plantings on the rotations are now heading. Excellent stands of alfalfa were secured on all the new plantings.

Edward G. Noble.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects.

Belle Fourche

Three flocks of poultry were culled during the week ending March 14, and three breeding pens were selected from among the best birds. Two cockerels were placed at one farm.

The agriculturist was called to a ranch some 25 miles east of the Project to inspect a band of sheep. These sheep were badly infected with scabies, and preparations are being made to dip them immediately to save the wool crop. This outbreak was caused by the purchase of a few sheep that went through the Newell yards last fall. Six bands of sheep from Project farms were inspected, but no further evidence of scabies was discovered. There are only eleven bands of sheep showing the slightest symptoms of scabies, or bands that have been exposed which are to be dipped under Federal supervision following shearing. It has been found to be an excellent policy to dip all bands of sheep once a year. The most effective time to dip is after shearing; and, where care is used to prevent "bumming" of the lambs by the ewes, this practice is most satisfactory. Ticks and occasionally lice are sometimes present, and they are a constant annoyance and loss to the sheep. Our best sheepmen consider annual dipping very profitable and almost necessary.

Twenty-six milk samples were gathered and tested. One dairyman is feeding oats to his cows at the rate of one pound of grain to three of milk; another has been feeding soft corn of unmerchantable quality. With butterfat here from 5 to 10 cents below the prices received on the other projects, it will be of interest to find out how much grain, if any, can be fed to dairy cows.

Two club meetings were attended during the week and one community meeting. Germination tests of seed-corn were made for six farmers; four of the tests showed seed unfit for planting. A large supply of 1923 seed has been obtained that is satisfactory for local needs.

Butterfat advanced from 30 to 38 cents during the week; eggs remain at 20 cents per dozen.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

Three days of the week ending March 7 were spent in securing members for the Cow-Testing Association; three new members were secured, and others were interested and developed into prospective members. Assistance was given in preparation of Cow-Testing Association data for annual report and also for office records.

A train-load of immigrant goods and immigrants were welcomes on Saturday, and a Community Day with barbecue was staged at St. Ignatius. The agriculturist was present and found considerable opportunity during the day to interview farmers on the Cow-Testing Association proposition. Seventy-eight head of cattle were brought in on the train by immigrants.

Flathead (continued)

One flock of 79 hens was culled and the method demonstrated; 50 hens were discarded. A Fair Committee meeting was attended at Polson, and plans were laid for the Lake County Fair this coming year. The Lake County Affiliated Clubs held their monthly meeting on Wednesday and took favorable action on the County Fair and Farm Tours proposed for this summer. A Project 4th of July picnic was discussed and made an item of business for the next meeting. Five press articles were prepared for the local papers.

Mr. Benson, of the Northern Pacific Railroad, was given cow-testing association and general dairy facts to incorporate in a leaflet he is preparing for the Flathead Project.

The Forestry Department in Missoula was visited, and landlords were interviewed for the purpose of securing their cooperation with tenants in cow-testing association work. It was planned to obtain data on the Project from the Forestry office, which had conducted the census taken this winter. The Agriculturist was referred to the proper offices for this information.

Irrigated pasture mixture was given to the Mission farm, and the management of rocky soils was discussed with the owners. Further progress was also made in the corn variety tests. Management of a dairy herd and breeding procedure was discussed at length with one farmer.

Butterfat is 39 to 42 cents and eggs are 22 cents in Ronan.

During the week ending March 14 the weather has been cool and cloudy, with some rain and snow. Roads are muddy but passable.

The gopher eradication work received considerable attention during the week. Mr. O. B. Stephl, leader of rodent control, U. S. Biological Survey, arrived on the 11th and stayed until the end of the week. This office cooperated with him to find suitable men to properly mix the poison and be responsible for details connected therewith. The Indian Irrigation Service is also cooperating whole heartedly in this work. Numerous details of the campaign were attended to and various agencies were coordinated. A community meeting was attended at the Mountain View school at which the work of this office and the gopher campaign in particular were explained; initial steps were taken to organize that community for more effective work.

Several days were also spent in work connected with the Cow-Testing Association, whose membership now requires 24 days' work. Two more days' work are to be secured, it is hoped, so that a full month will be provided for the tester. One new member was secured, and there is one other excellent prospect.

Several farmers made inquiry about irrigated pasture seed mixtures and were assisted in securing the seeds.

The Agriculturist met with the Fair Premium Committee to work out the premium list for the juniors and school departments.

One farmer was assisted in locating and arranging to purchase a purebred Guernsey bull calf, and two other farmers were advised on contemplated dairy cow purchases.

At Ronan butterfat is 39 to 42 cents for No. 1 cream, and eggs are 25 cents.

L. B. Miller.

Newlands

Wednesday evening of the week ending March 14 a farmers' meeting was attended in the Northam district, and a talk was made on commercial rabbit production, upon the invitation of the farmers of that district. Thirty people were present and practically all of them were interested in commercial rabbit production. This attendance may be taken as an indication of the importance of this industry in this locality. Hog-dressed rabbits have been selling in San Francisco at prices from 25 cents to 28 cents per pound. This price for rabbits has averaged only two or three cents less than the price for live chickens on the same market. Since rabbits are fed almost entirely on alfalfa hay, they make a very profitable return to the grower.

During the week a trip was made to one of the rabbit farms in the above district, where there were 1,000 fattening rabbits in one large pen. This grower devotes his entire time to rabbit production. He has perfected hutches built one above the other and end to end in long rows. These hutches are made so that they are quickly cleaned and so that the nest boxes are outside of the hutches proper and very accessible. One of the biggest problems in commercial rabbit growing is proper housing to insure sanitation and reduce the labor to the minimum.

Some experiments are planned for the coming season for the benefit of rabbit growers of the project. The object of these experiments will be to determine the rates and costs of producing gains in rabbits on alfalfa hay and on alfalfa hay supplemented with grain. The advantages of feeding does on alfalfa with and without grain will also be studied. Arrangements have been made with a commercial grower to carry on this work.

Two articles were prepared for the local press on the subjects of combatting black-head in turkeys and on the growing of a late crop of turkeys by farmers not regularly in the turkey-breeding business.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

During the week ending March 14 the county agent in Morrill County undertook a two-days dairy-feeding school in cooperation with the Nebraska Dairy Development Association. At the request of the agent, one day was spent in assisting with the program. Most farmers were busy with their spring work, and the attendance at the meeting was small.

A visit was made to Fort Laramie and to Veteran to see about the bull clubs at those places. The bulls seem to be appreciated by the club members and are being used at about full capacity.

Two culling demonstrations were held this week — 127 hens were handled and 20 were culled out.

One vaccinating demonstration was given in the lower end of the Project and 50 shoats were immunized. The rest of the herd was already immune.

A 500-word article on a summary of the activities of the office for 1924 was prepared for the local papers.

D. H. Propps.

[illegible]

Shoshone

The first two days of the week ending March 14 were spent in testing milk samples from the nine herds using the Government bulls and one other herd which is being tested regularly each month.

Three days were spent with a representative of a seed company which is contracting a seed-pea acreage on the Project. About 600 acres were contracted, nearly all in small lots averaging about 5 acres. The seed company and the farmers realize that this is an experiment and are not putting in a large acreage. The seed company has promised to offer a bean contract of 5 to 6 cents for garden beans.

I attended a sale where a team was sold for $300. With the exception of one team, which was sold for $336, this was the highest priced team sold at auction on the Project this year.

The weather has been cold and windy with no precipitation.

The alfalfa mill was grinding for a few days and paid $10 per ton for hay at the mill.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

Half of the week ending March 14 was spent in the office on account of bad weather and bad roads. Thirty letters were written, and two articles for local papers were prepared. The State club leader visited the office during the week for conference with the County Agent and the Project Agriculturist.

A farm sale at which some purebred and high-grade Guernsey heifers were offered was attended; and a number of men were advised regarding the breeding of the stock, as the herd had been under test by this office for the past year. One man bought all the purebreds and another bought most of the grades, which sold very low. This was part of the same herd from which all the milking stock was sold locally at private sale last week.

Milk tests were run in a herd near Delta on which the owner is starting to keep records as a result of a meeting held in that district recently. He has weighed his milk since the first of the month. Tests indicated that most of the eight cows in the herd are returning a very low margin above feed costs, and the owner is ready to replace them with better stock as soon as he can find them. He has also secured a purebred bull, having been breeding to anything he could find. Another man also requested information regarding a purebred bull, and arrangements were made to go with him to Grand Junction to select one.

Part of Friday and Saturday were spent in the interest of poultry and livestock clubs. Enrollment in the livestock clubs promises to be rather lighter than formerly on account of the cost of suitable animals and the difficulty of securing them at any price, especially for the sheep and calf clubs.

Markets: The following prices are quoted locally at the end of this week: Barley, $1.90 cwt.; corn, $3.00 cwt.; oats, $2.25 cwt.; wheat, $3.10 cwt.; potatoes, 95¢ to $1.00 cwt.; butterfat, 41¢ lb.; eggs, 25¢ doz.; beef, top Denver, $10.25; hogs, $14; sheep, $16.25.

H. A. Ireland.

WEEKLY REPORTS
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI March 21, 1925 No. 1

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Newlands

For the three weeks ending March 21, Mr. Knight reports as follows:

The meteorological data recorded at this station for this period follows: Mean maximum 58.4, maximum 77 on March 4; mean minimum 27.5, minimum 18 on March 10 and 11. The rainfall was .58 of an inch for the period. On the 7th of the month there was a snowfall of 7 inches.

The snow-storm followed by such warm weather has made conditions ideal for the planting of grains. Plats D4, D8, E3, E4, E5, E, and F5 have been seeded to wheat.

The work of plowing and leveling the High School tract is about completed. As soon as it is finished the hardier crops will be planted there as part of the variety tests that are to be conducted this summer.

The fruit trees have had their trunks white-washed to prevent sun scald. Some further white-washing has been done to the fence posts bordering the road and driveway and the greenhouse roof.

The plantings made in the greenhouse up to this time have been peppers, tomatoes, and eggplant.

A new pipe line has also been laid from the centrifugal pump to the tank house hill in order to irrigate the alfalfa and trees that are growing there.

E. W. Knight.

San Antonio

Meteorological data recorded during the two weeks ending March are summarized as follows: Maximum temperature 86, minimum 43, greatest daily range 35; precipitation .03 inch; 6 days clear, 4 partly cloudy, 4 cloudy.

No spring plantings of field crops have yet been made. One 3-team has been kept busy most of the period disking plats and fields in which Johnson grass is established.

Prunings from orchards, vineyards, and grounds were hauled to the dump grounds. All orchard trees and many ornamental plantings were sprayed for insect control. Lawn, nursery, and garden plantings were irrigated. The ends of all small grain and flax plantings were squared up, and Johnson grass was chopped from miscellaneous rotation plats. Feeders for rotation plats A4-7 to 10 were rebuilt.

Geo. T. Ratliffe.

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending March 21 was 52, with a maximum of 70 on the 21st; the average minimum was 21, with a minimum of 8 on the 15th. The week has been very windy, with bad dust storms.

The fall-plowed plats in Field X have been rolled and harrowed. The grass pastures have been fertilized and other miscellaneous jobs

Scottsbluff (continued)

been carried on.

The annual Lamb Feeders' Day was held on the 17th. Notwithstanding the fact that it was one of the most disagreeable days of the winter, there were about 200 feeders and farmers in attendance.

There is no change in the sugar-beet deadlock. There is quite an acreage going into grain, but it is believed that it is only the poorest of the beet land and that the best will be saved in the hope that something will break yet. If the growers do not release the members, this will probably go into potatoes or grain such as barley or corn.

James A. Holden.

Yuma

The maximum temperature reported during the week ending March 21 was 94°, the minimum was 37°, greatest daily range 49°; no precipitation was recorded.

The warm weather during the past week with freedom from high velocity winds has made ideal planting weather for cotton. Up to the present time the windy weather has not commenced. The replanting of much cotton land is usually caused by these high winds in March and April.

Many growers on the Project are taking advantage of the results obtained from the alfalfa fertilizer tests on the station. The consistent increase in yields of alfalfa hay from the use of a top dressing of acid phosphate has resulted in several car-loads of this fertilizer being applied to alfalfa lands. The average rate of application is approximately 300 pounds per acre.

Station work performed during the week consisted of planting Pima cotton on the rotations; harvesting the first cutting of alfalfa hay on the fertilizer and variety test plats; planting cuttings of grapes, pomegranites, figs, oleanders, roses, and crepe myrtle in nursery rows; pollenating and pruning dates; general irrigating and cultivating.

Station visitors during the week were: Frank Thackery, of the Indio Date Garden; L. L. Odle, superintendent of the Yuma Indian agency; Professors Clark, Showers, and Sheets, of the University of Arizona Extension Service; J. G. Hamilton, superintendent of the Yuma Date Garden; Mr. Coglan, County Agent of Yuma County; and George Hill, superintendent of the Citrus Syndicate's plantings on the Yuma Mesa.

Edward G. Noble.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

One day of the week ending March 21 was spent in the field in livestock club work. One poultry club meeting was attended, and one sow-litter club was organized.

With warm weather, the sheepmen who have exposed or scaby sheep wish to dip and clean up their bands. Through the efforts of this office, a Federal veterinarian arrived on the Project during the week and has been detailed for dipping and inspection work for at least a month. During the week three bands of sheep were dipped — two on the Project and one off the Project. As far as known, no other bands of sheep off the Project are diseased; and with the aid of an inspector it is hoped that all suspicious

Belle Fourche (continued)

bands can be closely watched and the dissemination of scabies prevented.

Some progress was made towards the future organization of a cow-testing-association. For some time the agriculturist has tried to form such an association on the Project, but a lack of sufficient dairymen prevented it. Now it is planned to take in more territory and, with the help of the county agents in adjoining counties, a testing association is likely to be formed this summer.

The price of butterfat has been unreasonably low this winter. During the last week the creamery at Belle Fourche started some competition in bidding for cream, with the result that butterfat continued at 38 cents, which it reached during the close of the previous week and even advanced to 41 cents on Saturday of this week. This price is very encouraging and stimulating to the dairy business. Eggs remain at 20 cents per dozen.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

The weather was fairly warm, but it was cloudy for the most part during the week ending March 21.

Arrangements were made with Charlo and St. Ignatius to have meetings there soon to organize clubs. A member of the pig club at Ronan was visited. Club work was presented at a meeting of the parent-teachers at St. Ignatius. Mrs. Miller gave the milk and foods exhibit.

A community meeting at Ronan was attended, and the community was organized to conduct a gopher eradication campaign. This is the first real good meeting the Ronan community has had, and it may open the way for a better general community spirit and organization. The stray cayuse pest situation was also considered at the meeting.

Considerable time was used in charting supplemental Cow-Testing Association data from the records of the cow tester. The Cow-Testing Association annual report was also completed in cooperation with the cow tester, and these are now available for distribution.

Nineteen of the 270 cows in the association produced over 400 pounds of butterfat during the year. Only 10 of the 19 received any grain. These ten received an average of only $16.44 worth of grain. Of the other 9 cows, 4 received only alfalfa hay and pasture; and the other 5 received alfalfa hay and corn silage with practically no pasture at all. The 4 cows receiving only alfalfa hay and pasture averaged 457.07 pounds fat, produced at a cost of 9.6 cents per pound; the 5 receiving alfalfa and some corn silage and very little pasture averaged 414.4 pounds fat, produced at a feed cost of 11.9 cents; and the 10 cows receiving some grain averaged 426.5 pounds fat, produced at a feed cost of 12.4 cents per pound. The 19 cows producing 400 pounds fat or over did so at an average cost of 11.7 cents per pound, while the 270 cows in the association averaged 14.2 cents of feed per pound of fat produced.

The average cost of grain for association cows was $4.11; 123 cows received $1.00 or more worth of grain; 84 over $5.00 worth; 49 over $10 worth; 31 over $15 worth; 11 over $20 worth; 5 over $25 worth; and 1 over $30 worth of grain.

All cows were tested for tuberculosis within 18 months; no reactors were found. All herds were using purebred sires at the end of the association year.

Flathead (continued)

The average fat production was 274.6 pounds, valued at $107.36, produced at an average feed cost of $38.30, and leaving a profit above feed cost of $69.06 per association cow. The average price of butterfat was 39 cents for the year.

Thirty-eight cows were sold for beef, and three scrub bulls were replaced. Nine milking machines were in use by association members, of which there were 29 testing for nine months or more.

Awarding recognition to cows producing over 365 pounds fat in a year was initiated by this association in the State of Montana. This matter was then taken up by the State Extension Service and arrangements were made whereby all association cows in Montana that produce at the rate of 1 pound per day for 365 days will be granted a Certificate of Merit; 39 cows in the Lake County Cow-Testing Association have gained this honor.

Considerable office work was brought up to date during the week; further work was done in getting seed corn for variety tests; and another demonstrator was secured. Office calls regarding blackhead in turkeys, cow feeding, milk fever, and other diseases likely to follow parturition were given attention. Further assistance was given to ranchers in arranging to purchase dairy stock.

Eggs are 25 cents per dozen and butterfat advanced 2 cents above the previous week.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

During the week ending March 21 considerable time was spent in finding new homes for some dairy cattle that had to be sold. Three herds were sold and all the individuals were retained on the Project. Practically all these cattle were Jersey grades and the more desirable ones brought $70 to $90. It is rather an uphill fight to keep these dairy cattle in good hands, but with the assistance of the bankers of the Project we have been pretty successful. The banks are willing to make loans on the dairy cattle, and farmers are repaying with returns from cream checks.

Two days were spent in dairy schools at Oakley and Malta. The agriculturist assisted Mr. J. W. Barber, the county agent of Cassia County, and H. R. Lochry, of the Bureau of Dairying, and Mr. D. L. Fourt, the Idaho Extension field dairyman, in putting on the program.

The committee at Malta put on a very good day's instruction and entertainment. Judging contests were held in the morning, and later general classes of dairy cows, both Jerseys and Holsteins, were placed by Mr. Fourt. Mr. Lochry gave an illustrated lecture on the care of milk, particularly applicable to patrons of cheese factories and the home dairyman. Mr. Fourt discussed problems of feeding.

The agriculturist discussed "Diseases of Dairy Cattle" at Oakley and a program for community development at Malta.

John T. Montgomery.

Newlands

During the week ending March 21 considerable time has been given to starting the Purebred Bull Campaign. A list of all dairymen, together with the number of females in their herds and whether they had a grade bull or no bull, was made. Copies of this list have been prepared for the breeders of registered cattle in the Valley. This list will help greatly in keeping

Newlands (continued)

in touch with the people who are prospects for registered bulls. During the week an article was prepared for the local press setting forth the results of the registered bull survey of the Project. This will be the first of a series of articles intended to stimulate the purchase of better sires.

In 1918 there were approximately 50 registered bulls on the Project In 1922 this was increased to 97, in 1923 to 134, and in 1924 to 160.

By the end of 1924 the dairy industry of the Project comprised 311 herds of more than five cows each. Of this number 46.3 per cent had registered dairy bulls, 33.1 per cent had grade bulls, and 20.6 per cent had no bulls. It may be seen from these figures that there is a lot of room yet for improvement so far as the number of our registered dairy sires is concerned. Fifty-three and seven-tenths per cent, or a little more than half of our dairy herds of more than five cows, need to be supplied with registered dairy bulls.

It is not always an easy matter to finance the purchase of a bull that will improve the dairy herd. Those who have grade dairy bulls, however, have a start toward this financing. Any breeder of registered stock will accept as first payment the grade bull and give time on the balance. A great many deals were made last year in this way; and a number of grade bulls were made into bologna, where they will no longer be able to perpetuate their kind and keep their owners struggling along with poor producing cows.

L. E. Oline.

North Platte

Culling demonstrations were given on five farms during the week ending March 21. A total of 875 hens were handled, two breeding pens were selected, and 160 hens were discarded. One of these demonstrations was arranged by the Scotts Bluff County Farm Bureau. About 20 people attended the demonstration. Two more demonstrations will be held in the same locality next week.

Annual Feeders' day was held at the Experiment Farm on March 17. The 13 lots of the experimental lambs were appraised in the forenoon by a representative of John Clay & Company, of Omaha. At the afternoon program about 200 people were present. In addition to a discussion of sheep-feeding problems, the program included a talk on cheese-making by Mr. Lochry, cheese specialist of the U. S. Bureau of Dairying.

D. H. Propps

Shoshone

The first three days of the week ending March 21 were spent attending the annual meeting of the Big Horn Basin Wool Growers' Association at Thermopolis. Addresses were given by Chas. Bayer, leader of predatory animal control work in Wyoming, Mr. Underwood, director of Federal Farm Loan Bank of Omaha, Matt Staff, president of The National Wool Exchange, Mr. Spath, member of the State Board of Sheep Commissioners, and other prominent wool growers. Leasing the public domain was one of the most important subjects discussed. It was the sentiment of all present that the range should be sold rather than leased. About 50 wool growers were present, and quite a number of others would have been there if they had not

Shoshone (continued)

been detained at home by lambing.

A meeting of the beet growers of the Garland Division was held Thursday evening and addressed by John Matthewson of the Beet Growers' Marketing Association of Billings. About half of the beet growers of the Garland Division were present, although the weather was extremely disagreeable. A temporary organization was affected and a committee was appointed to draft and present a constitution and by-laws to be submitted at a meeting to be held on the 26th. Comparatively few farmers have signed the beet contracts for this year, although they are not members of a marketing association.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

On the first of the week ending March 21 a trip was made with two farmers to Grand Junction to locate three Jersey bulls for men at Olathe and Montrose. Two yearling bulls and one younger animal were selected. They are from good-looking cows with fairly good records in the Mesa County Cow-Testing Association. All are registered or eligible to registry. They were obtained under the circuit plan of free-lease. Counting these a total of six bulls have been secured in this way this year from Mesa County breeders or 14 altogether, one of which died and was replaced by purchase. Two others have been purchased as a result of the circuit plan. Two other bulls were selected tentatively during the trip this week, one for a man off of the Project. It is not known definitely that these will be taken.

Blood samples were taken from another flock of poultry near Delta for white diarrhea test. The report received from the last samples sent in showed ten reactors.

A meeting was attended to discuss the organization of a community club in a district where it has been difficult to carry on any constructive work. An organization was effected and steps were taken toward the erection of a community hall, a meeting place for the community being the greatest present need. Club work will also be undertaken this year in the district.

Eleven dairy herds were tested this week in cooperation with the county agent and the agricultural classes of the Montrose High School. Five of these herds are under the plan of having high school boys go to the farms and take the samples, weighing the milk and checking on the amount of feed used. The owners pay a small fee per cow, which is paid to the boys. The boys are taken to the farms the evening of the test by the county agent and the demonstration agent, who call for them the next morning, bringing the samples to the High School building where they are tested in the laboratory of the agricultural department. Data will be sent to the State Dairy Commissioner, who will make the computations and return them to the herd owners and issue certificates of production for cows making above a certain prescribed minimum in a year.

Two of the men who secured Idaho Hampshire ewes were visited. The lambs from these ewes are showing up exceptionally well, and the men are well pleased with them. The percentage of lambs is smaller than was expected, however, and a few of the ewes which have not yet lambed look as if they may not bring lambs. A single ram lamb, dropped the last of January, weighed 56 pounds the day he was seven weeks old and is showing fine type.

H. A. Ireland.

[illegible] (continued)

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

WEEKLY REPORTS
Of the offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI March 28, 1925 No.

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Yuma

The following climatological data is reported for the week ending March 28: Maximum temperature 95, minimum 45, greatest daily range 4, and precipitation .35. There were two days of windy weather preceding the shower of March 27. This was considered to be quite a rain when compared with the total annual precipitation for the year 1924, which total was only .46 for the entire season.

Conditions for the planting of cotton and the harvesting of alfalfa hay on the Project continue to be very favorable.

Station work performed during the week consisted of fertilizing alfalfa plats in a new experiment with commercial fertilizers; cleaning and repairing ditches on the irrigated system; planting nurseries; pollinating dates and pruning for the eradication of the graphiola fungus; and general irrigating and cultivating.

Mr. David Savage, formerly in charge of the irrigated rotation work at the Huntley station, reported for work on March 23.

Secretary of the Interior Dr. Work and his party, who were visiting the Project during the week, were station visitors on March 26.

Edward G. Noble.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

During the week ending March 28 two flocks of sheep were dipped for scabies, under Federal supervision, and 11 flocks were inspected. Dr. M. M. Davis, of the Department of Animal Industry, will be on the Project for several weeks in active charge of the scabies eradication campaign.

Four club meetings were attended on Saturday, including one sheep club, one pig club, one poultry club, and one calf club meeting. Demonstrations were given on the selection of setting eggs, disinfection of incubator, milk testing, and an ear-marking system for young pigs. One sheep club was organized and stock located for five of its members. Three poultry flocks were culled and breeding pens were selected. Two applications for tuberculin testing of dairy cattle were forwarded to the State office, and one article was prepared for publication.

Eggs are selling for 20 cents and butterfat for 41 cents on the local market.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

Most of the farmers were busy plowing or doing other spring work in the fields during the week ending March 28. The weather was warm for the most part, with some cloudiness and a little precipitation.

Flathead (continued)

Several farm visits were made to cow-testing association prospects and a meeting of the directors was held. The testing association officers for the second year were elected. The association completed the first month of the second year with 31 herds on test and 23 days work; 360 cows were tested. Average butterfat for the month was 27.6 pounds. Six cows produced over 60 pounds of butterfat, while 33 produced over 40 pounds.

Club work received considerable attention during the week. One community was visited and material left, following conference with local parties; and arrangements were made for a meeting in the near future. A conference with the education official of the Indian Service resulted in plans to have these two offices cooperate in doing club work this summer.

One farmer was interested in trying to arrange the purchase of an exceptionally well-bred bull (1000-pound butter females immediate relatives) for his grade and purebred Holstein herd. Another farmer who has been given assistance previously in locating a purebred Guernsey bull calf was assisted in completing the purchase and arranging finances.

The corn for variety tests was prepared for distribution and germination test was started. Four more varieties were ordered to complete the collection of varieties likely to be promising. Another cooperator in the demonstrations was secured.

The gopher extermination campaign also received attention. The mixing of poison is completed, and most of it has been distributed to the communities. Posters and other printed matter has been distributed to the community and unit leaders, who are taking care of detailed distribution of same. A conference with the county commissioners regarding this work was attended.

Several more farmers were given information on irrigated pasture mixtures, and local dealers were interviewed in regard to supplying seed.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

During the week ending March 28 the agriculturist accompanied some farmers to a purebred dairy sale on a neighboring project to secure some Guernsey cattle. The prices at which the animals sold in the auction did not seem high enough to the owner and the sale was stopped. Attempts to purchase privately were not successful because it was felt that the owner of the cattle was asking more than our dairymen could pay.

Another bunch of cows, fairly good producers of mixed breeding, were sold and all retained on the Project.

Interest in poultry problems, particularly this week in managing incubators, has taken up considerable time.

Two days were spent with Mr. Bolen on calf club work and pig club work, which seems to be getting a very nice start. The district club agent, Mr. Bolen, and the agriculturist also plan to promote a corn club in connection with the pig clubs.

John T. Montgomery.

Newlands

During the week ending March 28 definite arrangements were made for conducting, under the supervision of this office, the two-day poultry show on April 10 and 11 at Fallon. The subjects to be discussed will include the care and management of baby chicks, all items concerning general poultry management, egg production, and marketing.

It is planned to give special attention to discussions on home-grown poultry feeds. The subject of poultry diseases and their control will be handled by the Veterinary Department of the University of Nevada. Turkey production and management will be given a prominent place on the program. Local poultrymen have been given places on the program, and it is planned to bring out as much as possible local experiences during the discussions of the various topics.

Quite an extensive experiment has been started on the cost of growing rabbits for meat purposes. The part of the experiment which is now under way is for the purpose of finding out what advantage there is, if any, in supplementing alfalfa hay with rolled barley for fattening rabbits. Costs of production and rates of gain will also be secured by this feeding test.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

During the week ending March 28 milk samples were collected and tested for farmers who are members of the Sheep Creek Bull Club. The members are all provided with milk scales and record book, and individual records are kept the same as in cow-testing association work. Perhaps some time the work will increase so that a cow-testing association may be formed.

A farmer north of Mitchell lost three cows in the last few days and four more are in a serious condition. These cows have been ranging over several adjoining farms and evidently have eaten some poisonous feed of some kind. The herd was confined to a lot where they will be fed and an effort made to save the sick cows.

During the week eight culling demonstrations were given; 850 hens were handled and 154 were discarded. A total of about 100 people attended these demonstrations and took part in the culling. Many of them continued to go from one demonstration to another until they got practice enough and developed sufficient self-confidence to do their own culling.

Heavy hens are bringing 19 cents on the local market now, and farmers are anxious to get their flocks culled.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

During the week ending March 28 a cooperative shipment of two cars of cattle, consigned by 21 farmers, was made. These were fat cows and heifers with a few canners and calves. One of the farmers accompanied the shipment to Omaha. We are trying to get as many farmers as possible to go to market with this stuff so that they will have a better idea of market requirements and shipping conditions.

The beet growers of the Garland Division held another meeting this week, but they decided it was too late to accomplish anything by

Shoshone (continued)

affiliating with the Montana Beet Growers' Association. The beet acreage on the Project will be a little smaller this year than last, probably about 2,000 acres compared with 2,300 last year.

Farmers have done considerable field work and are about three weeks ahead of last year with their spring work. Water will be turned into the ditches on the 6th or 7th.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

The first two days of the week ending March 28 were occupied with a 48-hour test of a dairy herd near Montrose, the owner of which wished to make complete check on feed, production, cream test, etc. Eight Holstein cows were included in the test, all the cream from these cows being sold and no other milk being separated at the same time. Each milking was tested and the skim-milk and cream from each milking were weighed and tested. All feed was weighed. The total weight of whole milk for the two days was 595.2, which was 13.3 pounds more than the combined weights of the cream and skim-milk. The computed fat production was 19.4 pounds, while the tests of the cream at the station, which checked with the tests by this office, showed only 16.7 pounds. It was found that the separator was doing poor work, the skim-milk showing over 20 one-hundredths per cent of fat, which accounted for a pound of the fat lost. The cows consumed 33.6 pounds of hay per head per day with 100 pounds of uncooked, cull potatoes and 40 pounds of ground oats. Hay was charged at $9.00 per ton, potatoes at 25 cents per hundredweight and oats at $2.10, the cost of the two days feed being $4.60. The current price of butterfat was 40 cents per pound, making the receipts for the two days $6.68, or $2.08 above the cost of the feed. With the loss in the separated milk eliminated this would have been $2.40, or 15 cents per cow per day, which would have made hay worth $17.90 per ton with the grain and potatoes charged at the above prices; 26-cent butterfat would have just paid for the feed. The owner of the cows felt that the test had been well worth while, as he had been doubtful about the profits from his herd.

A local Hampshire sheep breeder requested that the ram secured for him last fall from the University of Wyoming be weighed. The ram is just 14 months old and was used in a flock of 65 ewes the past breeding season. He has been carefully handled and well fed. At this time he weighs 240 pounds. He has not only good size but is a fine type and his lambs are the best the breeder has ever raised. More than 150 per cent of lambs have been dropped. A lamb was also weighed for one of the men who bought four of the Idaho ewes. This is a ewe lamb, dropped the last of January. The weight at just eight weeks of age was 53 pounds. This is one of the best lambs for both size and type the writer has ever seen. A sheep club will be formed among children of Hampshire breeders, with probably eight or nine members.

Milk tests were run for a man at Clathe, and a visit was made to his sheep camp. This man is not a dairyman, but he keeps a few good Jersey cows to raise the orphan lambs from his range ewes. For the past several years the "bums" raised in this way have outgrown the lambs raised on the ewes. This year there are fewer orphans than usual, as the season has been very favorable for lambing and the ewes have milked

Uncompahgre (continued)

well and have given very little trouble about claiming their lambs. There are 900 ewes in the band, and up to the 25th instant there had been 385 single lambs and 164 pairs of twins dropped. The owner of th band had five purebred Hampshire rams in the shipment from Idaho in January.

Two calls were made on dairymen who are interested in building barns. One of them is already building and the other plans to build during the year. Both these men have requested information regarding milking machines and other equipment, which has been supplied them as far as possible.

Two men called at the office for information relative to pasture seeding. Both want immediate results and were advised to sow winter rye in old alfalfa fields in which the stand is very poor, which they plan to do. One of them wants to seed 40 acres to pasture and plans to seed half with rye for use this year and the remainder with a grass mixture for permanent pasture, and seed the first half to grass next year. Local seed dealers are advertising a special price for grass seed during the month of April in order to encourage the planting of more pastures.

Markets: The only material changes in the market situation has been a slight advance in beef on the Denver market, top reaching $10.50, the peak of the season; a decline in hogs from $14 to $13, and a similar decline in sheep to $14.60. Receipts of the three classes of stock on the Denver market for the year, to date, are shown below with increases and decreases.

Class of stock	Receipts for year	Increase or decrease
Cattle	102,541	6,115 decrease
Hogs	149,989	21,008 decrease
Sheep	496,958	109,566 increase.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XXI April 4, 1921 No. 14

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Newlands

For the period March 23 to April 6 Mr. Knight reports as follows:

The meteorological data recorded at this station for this period follows: Mean maximum temperature 61.0, maximum 75 on March 25; mean minimum temperature 32.1, minimum 20 on March 24. The rainfall was .45 inch for the period, .26 falling on March 29, .02 on March 31, .03 on April 4, and .15 on April 5.

Several varieties of the hardier vegetables have been planted in the garden. The vegetables planted were parsnips, turnips, carrots, radishes, onions, and peas.

The data on berry growing and vine culture on this Project are rather limited. In an endeavor to gain some information regarding this there have been planted six varieties of gooseberries; three varieties each of blackberries and raspberries; two varieties each of dewberries and raspberries; one variety of loganberry; and eight varieties of grapes.

The plantings at the High School grounds consisted of two checks each of spelt, trebi barley, Silvermine oats and Hulless oats.

E. W. Knight.

San Antonio

The following meteorological data were recorded during the two weeks ending April 4: Maximum temperature 87, minimum 48, greatest daily range 37; precipitation .27 inch; sky clear 7 days, cloudy 7 days.

The small amount of rainfall received March 22 was not sufficient to relieve the severe drought which has prevailed for months. Corn, milo, and hay sorghums were planted in the rotation and tillage plats March 24, 27, and 28, respectively. The seed beds were all very cloddy and loose except following early summer plowed small grains. All plats were too dry to support germination.

A shipment of live material of grasses, including 55 S.P.I. and F.C.I. numbers, was received from Prof. C. V. Piper, of the Office of Forage Crop Investigations, and set in the nursery west of the greenhouse.

In addition to making the plantings mentioned above, work done during the period has included planting about 2½ acres of pasture to Sudan grass, installing a tile drain system to handle rain water from the roofs of farm buildings, cleaning corrals, and chopping Johnson grass.

Geo. T. Ratliffe.

Scottsbluff

During the week ending April 4 there have been three light showers, totalling .88 inch of rain, which put the ground in excellent shape for seeding. Quite a bit of grain has already been seeded. It has also

Scottsbluff (continued)

been a week of high winds—the average hourly velocity was 11.6 miles.

During the week Field II-C was plowed. The fall-plowed plats in Field K were harrowed and leveled, and the grain plats were prepared for seeding. The season is opening up considerably earlier this year than last, and unless storms yet intervene all seeding will be advanced somewhat.

The hog-feeding tests were closed this week and some of them were placed on self-feeder for fattening. The two lots of steers were sent to market in very good condition. They averaged 1485 pounds, which is too heavy to receive the price that their condition would warrant. One deck of the experimental lambs and one of hogs are yet to be marketed, which will be done as soon as the market strengthens a little.

Under the decision in the sugar-beet controversy rendered in Colorado, the Great Western is signing up contracts with the Nebraska growers. The Nebraska Growers' Association refused to join the Colorado growers in accepting the compromise offer of the Sugar Company and will not release their growers except under certain conditions, which require the signing of some additional contracts with the Nebraska Growers' Association. It is probable that the acreage will be somewhat reduced in this district.

James A. Holden.

Yuma

The maximum temperature for the week ending April 4 was 85°, minimum 35°, greatest daily range 45°, precipitation 0°. Two days with high winds and two cloudy with threatening rains were recorded during the week. Considerable rain has fallen along the coast, but no moisture fell in this area.

With the exception of the windy weather, cotton planting continues in good shape. Alfalfa hay from the first cutting is selling locally at $14 per ton in the field. Wheat and barley varieties on the station are well headed. Cotton plantings have all been made with the exception of the cooperative variety tests and the selection block of Tuxtla cotton. Excellent stands of Pima cotton on the rotations were secured.

Station work performed during the week consisted of cultivating cotton; repairing buildings, machinery, and pipe-lines; pollinating and pruning date palms; planting tomatoes; hoeing borders, and general irrigating.

The biology classes of the Yuma Union High School visited the station on April 2.

Edward G. Noble.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

During the week ending April 4 two bands of sheep were dipped for scabies and five bands were reinspected under Federal supervision. A new State law was recently passed by the legislative assembly which primarily provides against the introduction of sheep diseases by compulsory inspection and dipping of all sheep brought into the State, except for exhibition purposes and immediate slaughter, and for the control and eradica-

Belle Fourche (continued)

tion of sheep diseases when discovered within the State. The bill as passed by the legislative assembly is practically the same as the draft drawn up by interested parties of the Project.

Mr. Pickarts, of the Squire-Dingee Pickle Company of Chicago, reports that the Project is assured of two and possibly three salting stations for the coming season. The needed acreage has been secured, the latest report indicating that at least 300 acres will be planted to pickles this year. The prices to be paid here are the same as in the Colorado cucumber-raising districts.

The sugar-beet growers will have about the same acreage this year as last, with 1850 acres signed up. So far the growers have received $7.50 per ton for their beets, with another bonus yet to be received.

Part of one day was spent with County Agent Ellison on club camp, county fair, and livestock club matters. Milk tests were run for two farmers.

Eggs are selling for 21 cents per dozen and butterfat brings 36 cents per pound on the local market.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

The Lake County Affiliated Organizations held their monthly meeting during the week ending April 4, and plans were made for the Project picnic at Polson on July 4. This will be the second annual picnic, the first being held last year with an attendance of 4000 people. This proposition was also taken up at the Polson meeting.

Plans were discussed at the Holstein breeders' meeting to extend the activities of the organization throughout the Project and County.

A meeting with Charlo children interested in club work was held; the work was explained and application blanks distributed. A meeting in the near future for organization of the club was planned.

Several meetings, conferences, and office calls were in connection with the rodent control work. Most of the 10,000 pounds of poison has been distributed by various agencies to the several communities, and some of the poison has been placed. Excellent to poor results have been reported, some feeling that not enough dead gophers could be found on top of the ground. Carelessness in children handling the poison has already resulted in loss of geese, although directions are inclosed in each package of poison advising strongly against permitting children to have anything to do with the poison. In general, results so far have been very satisfactory in getting the squirrels.

Several farm calls were made in connection with cow-testing association work, but no new members have signed. Statement forms were prepared.

Five press articles dealing with Cow-Testing Association Project Picnic, gopher campaign, and marketing were prepared.

One rancher was interviewed regarding weighing fleece of each sheep and culling accordingly, and a favorable though not definite reaction was obtained.

At Ronan eggs are 25 cents and butterfat 39 to 41 cents for No. 1 cream.

L. B. Miller.

Newlands

The report for the week ending April 4 is as follows:

The alfalfa fields of the Project have been very backward for some time in spite of the very favorable growing weather which has prevailed in this locality. Discouraging reports have been made that the trouble was due to winter killing, lowered water table, etc., but upon investigation of the fields it was found that the trouble has been due to a plague of cutworms, which has very generally infested the alfalfa fields. Some fields have escaped and parts of other fields have escaped, but on the whole the alfalfa is making very little headway and the first crop is expected to be short and late. The cutworms are cutting off the young shoots at the surface of the ground as fast as they come out. Thorough cultivation and heavy irrigation is being resorted to in order to combat the cutworms. Some anxiety is being felt for the cultivated crops because of the large number of cutworms over the Project.

Up to the present time careful estimates place the surplus alfalfa hay yet unsold at 3,000 tons. The present condition of the alfalfa indicates that this surplus will be cleaned up before harvesting time.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

During the week ending April 4 two light showers fell, which settled the dust and put the fields in ideal condition. Spring work for farmers is starting fully a month earlier than last year.

Eight culling demonstrations were given this week. A total of 745 hens were handled and 216 were culled out.

An 800-word article on testing cows was prepared for the local papers.

D. H. Propps.

Uncompahgre

During the week ending April 4 some work has been done on the ton-litter contest. Ten entries are required in a county before the county can enter the State contest. Seven entries have been made in Montrose County to date, and there are several other prospects.

W. T. Ferguson has thirty acres of land he wishes to seed to pasture, but he cannot secure seed for all of it this year. He plans to divide the field and seed half of it to winter rye for summer pasture, seeding to grass next year if circumstances will permit. Two other men will also seed rye in thin alfalfa or sweet clover stands for pasture. This was tried last year with very satisfactory results. The rye furnished a large amount of additional feed at very small expense and seemed to counteract the tendency to bloat. Time was taken to go over Mr. Ferguson's place quite thoroughly, as he has a peculiar soil condition that makes his farm difficult to handle. His results with pasture grass will be watched with interest on this account.

A call was made on a local dairyman who has had trouble with depraved appetite in his cows. They will leave the best alfalfa hay for bones, pieces of boards, etc. He has had the cows on pasture through the summer season and has fed some variety including sunflower silage and beet pulp. A mineral mixture was suggested, which he will try. He has

Uncompahgre (continued)

had no trouble from abortion or sterility, but his cows are thin and look rough and out of condition. They were tested for tuberculosis.

A club meeting of all members of livestock clubs in two districts was attended on Saturday afternoon with County Agent Tucker, at the home of the leader. There will be some work with calves, sheep, and hogs, although the enrollment will be small.

Some time was spent with the special commission appointed to classify the lands of the Project. The commission consists of Governor Campbell, of Arizona; Assistant Secretary Goodwin, of the Interior Department; Dr. Aylesworth, former President of the Colorado Agricultural College; and Mr. Lapham, soil expert. These men arrived in Montrose on Wednesday and spent the remainder of the week in driving over the Project to become acquainted with the general conditions. They report having met with an unexpected optimism among the men of the Project, and have been very favorably impressed with the better parts of the Project.

Weather conditions have been favorable for farm work during the past week and farmers are extremely busy, as the season is quite late due to continued cold and an over supply of moisture in the ground. There is still some snow on the ground in shady places. The ground is working up in good shape. Some irrigation has been done on onions, of which a large acreage is being seeded. Wheat seeding is nearly finished in some sections, but there is still a great deal of wheat ground to be seeded.

Markets have not changed materially since last report. Butterfat advanced to 43 cents for a few days, but dropped again to 41 cents. Hogs have gone off a little but are coming back. Eggs are still 25 cents, which is 10 cents above the usual price for this time of the year.

H. A. Ireland.

WEEKLY REPORTS
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI April 11, 1925 No. 15

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Scottsbluff

During the week ending April 11 there has been considerable wind, the average hourly velocity being 8.2 miles. There has been no moisture during the week.

Farm work has progressed steadily this week. Field III-C was seeded to barley and sweet clover. The plats comparing plowing vs disking for beets in Field E were seeded, and the beet and grain plats in Field K were harrowed, leveled, and floated, and will be seeded next week. The seeding is about a week earlier than last year.

The Experimental steers that were shipped last week brought $10.50 and averaged 1420 pounds at Omaha, taking a shrink of 4.6 per cent.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects.

Belle Fourche

Most of the week ending April 11 was spent in inspecting sheep. The shearing season will soon be here, and with 85 per cent of the farm flocks lambed out many of the sheepmen are looking to the range country for summer feeding. All exposed sheep are to be dipped twice, and those infected with scabies will have three dippings. Considerable time was used in regard to the cleaning up of premises and bed grounds and in securing range free from infection. Most of the small farm flocks are bunched and herded during the summer in large bands on the range. This practice is economical, but is very dangerous if any sheep infected with scabies should go on the range and infect other clean sheep or range country now free from scab mites.

Two community meetings and one club meeting were attended. One demonstration was given in milk testing to the members of the dairy club. One article was written for publication. Two bands of sheep were dipped, and a trip was made to Belle Fourche to consult a Federal veterinarian in regard to the sheep situation on the Project.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

During the week ending April 11 the weather was unusually warm for this time of the year. Spring crops are starting nicely.

Considerable attention was given club work during the week. Two days were spent in visiting the Lone Pine district with Mr. Bransten of the Indian Service for the purpose of organizing club work in that section. A club meeting was held at the school house; and those who had expressed a desire to join were visited at home, in order to get contact with the parents. A visit was also paid to the St. Ignatius school, but here the interest in the livestock clubs was insufficient to warrant

Flathead (continued)

forming a club at this time. Two local leaders were secured at Lone Pine, one for the boys' club and another for the girls' club. Both have previously done club work, and it appears that they will handle the clubs in a satisfactory manner.

The gopher campaign was given attention, particularly office calls and making arrangements with the county commissioners to secure additional materials. This poison is mixed under the supervision of the Biological Survey. Live gophers were secured to use in trials of poison effectiveness.

A conference was held with the Lone Pine Farm Bureau chairman regarding the work of that organization and plans for the future. The matter of stressing forage crops and irrigated pasture mixtures was undertaken as part of the program.

A rancher was assisted in selecting and arranging for purchase of four high grade Jersey cows. The wholesale death of chicks on one ranch was investigated, and the matter is being given further attention.

A committee meeting of the State home demonstration agent, the county agent of Flathead County, the agriculturist and Mrs. Miller, and other representatives from organizations in Lake and Flathead Counties was held at Dayton to select the location of and formulate plans for the Women's Vacation Camp, to be held for the first time west of the Rockies in Montana.

Eggs are 25 cents and butterfat 37 to 39 cents.

L. B. Miller.

North Platte

Organization of livestock clubs was started during the week ending April 11. All reports and detail work will be attended to by the county agents, and the subject matter will be handled by the agriculturist. Pig clubs and dairy calf clubs will be featured this year. One pig club meeting was attended this week and an organization formed in new territory.

The regular meeting of the South Sioux Poultry Association was held at Henry on Monday evening. Dr. Geo. H. Glover of Fort Collins discussed the subject of poultry diseases. The attendance was good, numbering 150, and the lecture was very much appreciated.

The Association launched this week the undertaking of shipping graded eggs direct to New York City. A grading and packing demonstration was given, and two cases of white eggs were consigned to Betman & Son, 317 Greenwich St., New York. The express amounts to about 10 cents per dozen. Other case shipments will be made; and if this method of marketing proves satisfactory, the Association hopes to be shipping in car lots by fall.

Culling demonstrations were given on five farms; 515 hens were handled and 86 non-layers were culled out. The local price of heavy hens is 20 cents.

Letters have been sent to about 50 farmers whose hogs are immune, calling their attention to the advisability of vaccinating the spring pigs before they become too large.

An 800-word article on saving the spring pigs was prepared for the local papers.

D. H. Propps.

Uncompahgre

The special commission representing the Department of the Interior in the adjustment of the repayment of construction costs of the Uncompahgre Project held hearings at Montrose on Monday, Tuesday, and until Wednesday noon of the week ending April 11. The general feeling toward these hearings seems to be that the commission was very fair and that a satisfactory arrangement will be worked out for a basis on which the construction charges will be paid. As a rule the water users are satisfied with the plan of paying 5 per cent of gross returns of the land; but there is strong objection to placing the average gross returns at $41 per acre, which is the figure derived from the crop reports of the local Reclamation office. It is felt that this is much too high, as the crop census is taken before crops are all marketed and the market returns often do not bear out the census reports, either in price or in quantity. The question of collective liability was also debated and is probably giving more concern to the water-users than any other point. The demonstrations agent sat in a part of the hearings.

A Community Day was held in Delta for one of the rural districts on Saturday. A community club was recently organized in this district; and the first project to be undertaken will be the erection of a community building, which is badly needed. A sale of articles donated by the residents of the district and by the merchants of Delta was held to raise funds toward this building. Arrangements were made at this time to place two purebred Jersey bulls with farmers of the district. Assistance was also given in securing a registered bull in another locality.

Final arrangements were made with the Delta Chamber of Commerce to enter the State ton-litter contest, the Chamber agreeing to guarantee the necessary funds. Only one entry was made, but there are a number of prospects that have been waiting until it was known whether Delta County would qualify for the State contest. Eleven entries have been secured in Montrose, where the Chamber of Commerce has also agreed to sponsor the contest.

W. H. Olin, agriculturist for the D. & R. G. W. Railroad, visited the Project this week, and some time was spent with him. He is interested in the ton-litter contest and in increasing the feeding of livestock for market on the Western Slope.

Another herd of dairy cows was placed on the testing list this week. Some time was spent with the man who is preparing to seed a large acreage to grass seed and rye. The land is not yet ready to seed --some difficulty is being experienced in working it into proper condition for a seed bed.

A community club meeting was attended in Delta County and livestock clubs, pastures, and the ton-litter contest were discussed.

Markets: Alfalfa hay, $9 per ton; barley, $2 to $2.50 per hundredweight; corn, $2.50 per hundredweight; oats, $2 per hundredweight; wheat, $2.75 per hundredweight; potatoes, 90 cents to $1 per hundredweight; butterfat, 38 cents per pound; eggs, 25 cents per dozen; beef cattle, $10.50 per hundredweight, freight paid, top Denver; hogs, $13.35 per hundredweight, top Denver for week; sheep, $15. per hundredweight, top Denver.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | April 18, 1925 | No. 16

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending April 18 was 71, with a maximum of 81 on the 17th; the average minimum was 37, with a minimum of 33 on the 13th. The week was dry and windy with an average hourly velocity of 10.8 miles per hour.

During the week the oat, beet, and alfalfa plats in Field K were prepared and seeded. The oats and beets were seeded about a week earlier and the alfalfa two weeks earlier than last year. Owing to the dry weather it is probable that the seed planted after this time will not germinate until the rains start. A great deal of seeding is being done now.

The pasture plats are being fenced, and the two lots of ewes that have lambed have been turned out on sweet clover. The spring lamb crop will run over 100 per cent. Some of the hogs have also been turned out on alfalfa pasture.

According to figures given out by the Sugar Company, the total planting of beets up to April 15 was 15,300 acres as compared with 6,200 acres, which was the record prior to this year. In addition to this, they say that the land that has been and is yet to be planted is the pick of the farms so far as quality and fertility is concerned. The land has been more carefully prepared also. The beet acreage this year is approximately 90 per cent of last year and will be in the neighborhood of 54,000 acres. Owing to the early planting of a large acreage and other favorable conditions, there is a good chance for a record tonnage and much more profitable yields.

The Board of Adjustment and Survey for the Reclamation Service was in session during the week and took a great deal of evidence supporting the contention of the water-users of the North Platte Project that the charges as assessed are too high. The superintendent was called on for information regarding the value of some of the lower class lands and the best methods for handling sandy soils.

James A. Holden.

Yuma

The climatological data recorded for the week ending April 11 were: maximum 98°, minimum 42°, greatest daily range 45°, precipitation zero.

The increasingly warm daily temperatures with absence of winds have made conditions very favorable for the newly planted cotton. Most of the 1925 crop on the Project has been planted, and in many cases fields have been cultivated for the first time.

Some alfalfa growers are still harvesting their first cutting of hay This crop is bringing around $14 per ton loose in the field. Growers who applied acid phosphate earlier in the spring at the rate of 200 to 300 pounds per acre of 16% acid phosphate are very well pleased with the increase in hay that they have secured. In most cases this increase has more than offset the cost of the fertilizer.

Yuma (continued)

The Progeny block of Tuxtla cotton was planted on April 8, and ground was irrigated for the planting of the Co-operative variety test. This will conclude the cotton planting on the station for the season. The Pima cotton planted on the irrigated rotations has come up to an excellent stand, and one cultivation has already been given.

White Smyrna barley, planted as a nurse crop with Hubam clover on November 3, was harvested for grain on April 16. Two plats of beardless barley were cut for hay.

Two hundred grape-fruit, fifty Navel orange, twenty select seedling oranges, and twenty-five Satsuma oranges were budded in the Citrus nursery. Sour orange, chinese lemon, citrange, and trifoliata root stocks were used.

Other station work performed during the week consisted of pollinating and pruning dates; building fences on ditch banks for sheep; hoeing borders and roadways; repairing machinery and buildings; and general irrigating and cultivating.

Edward G. Noble.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects.

Belle Fourche

Practically the entire week ending April 18 was spent in inspecting sheep and in supervising the dipping for the eradication of scabies. Seven bands of sheep were dipped during the week and five bands were carefully inspected. Federal veterinarian Davis is in active charge of the field work.

Most of the project bands of sheep are lambed out and will soon go to the range for summer feeding. All the sheep that have been exposed or were infected during the fall or winter are now under quarantine, and such sheep must be dipped twice and the yards and sheds cleaned and disinfected before they are released.

Part of one day was used in club work. We hope to have Rambouillet and Corriedale sheep clubs on the project. Milk tests were run for one farmer. Butterfat is worth 35 cents per pound, and eggs are 20 cents per dozen.

F. E. Miller.

Minidoka

During the week ending April 11 the agriculturist made plans for, outlined the management of, and set date for two Egg Shows to be held on the project, one at Burley and the other at Rupert. These shows will be put on under the management of the local poultry associations.

A group of farmers was organized for a trip to Boise Valley on April 15 to secure a carload or more of dairy cattle.

A study was made of feed conditions in the desert near the project as a possible range for some combined farm flocks. Good grass was found, but water was scarce. Sheepmen grazing flocks on this section of the desert at this time are hauling water to them, but they find it profitable because of the excellent feed.

The agriculturist spent the week ending April 18 selecting heifers

Minidoka (continued)

for the Declo Calf Club and inspecting a flock of registered Cotswold sheep in which project farmers are interested. Eighteen cows and heifers and one bull were secured. The animals were selected by the agriculturist and purchased by a committee from the project Holstein-Friesian Association.

5 King Segis 10th heifers from the Killen herd at $120.00
5 Matador heifers from Black at $100.00 each
2 Matador and 2 McCall - Carnation bred heifers from Pipher at $100.00
1 bull calf of McCall breeding at $65.00 for Mr. Bauch
1 King Segis bred cow for Mr. Walker, $165.00
1 King Segis bred cow for Mr. Gillette, $150.00

These cattle are all well developed, husky animals, backed by good milk and butterfat records.

Two registered Jersey heifers were selected for Paul Rogers at $100 each. Grand dams of these heifers were State champions in their classes, and their dams have better two-year-old records than grand dams.

These cattle had been located by the agriculturist on a previous scouting trip and were considered the best that could be obtained at the price the boys could afford to pay. A number of animals of equal quality had to be passed up because the price asked was too high. The purse limit made selection difficult.

The Cotswold ewes were offered to us at $25 each with lamb at side, registration papers furnished, 40 per cent two-year olds with first lambs, 40 per cent three- and four-year olds, and 20 per cent five- and six-year olds, defectives to be thrown out. This looks like a good purchase.

John T. Montgomery.

Newlands

Much of the time during the week ending April 11 was spent in making final arrangements for the poultry school, which was held on Friday and Saturday. Although this was the first event of its kind held here, it was well attended and the interest was excellent. All the speakers scheduled to take part were on hand, and very general interest was taken in the discussions on the various topics. The program consisted of thirteen different numbers.

Three different concerns, making a specialty of poultry feeds, had a complete display of their products. In addition to this, there was also an excellent display of poultry appliances. As an added attraction for the poultrymen attending the school, a large amount of literature, including Government bulletins, leaflets, and circulars of information from poultry feed concerns, and sample copies of poultry magazines, was assembled for free distribution.

Many favorable comments were made on this first poultry school; and there seems ample justification for planning one for next year and holding in connection with it a poultry show. To this end some preliminary arrangements have already been made for speakers.

The report for the week ending April 18 is as follows:

One of the most serious crop pests with which the local farmers have had to deal has been the cutworms, which have infested about half the alfalfa acreage of the valley. The infestation is much worse in some fields than in others. No one community seems to be free from the pests.

Newlands (continued)

By the middle of April some of the fields are almost covered solid with new growth of alfalfa, and in other fields where the cutworms are numerous there is no green growth showing above the surface. The young tender shoots are cut off just under the ground. The cutworms appear to have just about reached their growth at the present time, and it is hoped that about ten more days will see them metamorphosing. This condition should permit the alfalfa to get a start.

Some plans have been perfected for next year's poultry school and show and tentative arrangements have been made for some speakers. One article was prepared for the local press making preliminary announcements for next year's poultry school.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

During the week ending April 18 some time was spent with livestock club work. One calf club and one pig club of 10 members each were organized and four other prospective clubs were investigated. Interest in club work is good this spring.

At the request of County Agent Nelson, a community meeting was attended in Morrill County and poultry diseases were discussed. Mr. Nelson is making poultry one of his major projects this year.

Three requests were received this week to examine sick chicks. In each case the trouble was evidently caused by faulty feeding.

About two weeks ago two cases of eggs were graded, packed, and shipped to New York for members of the South Sioux Poultry Association. Returns were received this week: the eggs sold in New York for 33½ cents a dozen. Betman & Son, to whom the two cases were consigned, spoke very highly of the quality of the eggs and encouraged further shipments.

An 800-word article on feeding and care of baby chicks was prepared and sent to the local press.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

Rain and light snow the first two days of the week ending April 11 put the soil in good shape to work. It had been announced that water would be turned into the ditches on the 6th, but due to the rain it was not turned in until later.

I visited the Experiment Farm at Huntley on the 8th and attended a Shorthorn sale at Billings. A small herd of 18 head of good cattle, but not fashionably bred, averaged $74. The remainder of the offering were small consignments, poorly fitted and most of them poor individuals, which brought a little more than beef prices. I attended a banquet of the Yellowstone Breeders' Association in the evening.

We had planned a co-operative shipment of cattle on the 14th from Powell and Deaver, but were not able to list a carload at either place. Cattle are going out to the range, so it is not likely that another shipment of cattle will be made from the project this spring.

The weather has been very favorable for field work during the week ending April 18. Quite a number of farmers have started planting beets, and a few have started irrigating. Alfalfa and sweet clover are starting,

Shoshone (continued)

so that cattle and sheep can get a fill. Three cases of bloat have been reported.

The milk samples from the eight herds using Government bulls were collected and tested. Samples from ten other herds were collected and tested, making a total of 81 samples from the 18 herds.

A representative of a seed company is here this week contracting acreage for seed garden beans at $5\frac{1}{2}$ to $6\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound. They expect to contract about 500 acres.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

The regular monthly milk tests have occupied nearly half of the time of the week ending April 18. Fourteen herds were tested, two of them taking up the work for the first time. These herds are all small, ranging from three cows to eleven. Average fat production for the month, based on the weight of milk and butterfat test for one day, ranged from 19 pounds per cow to 39 pounds. Three cows were sold from one herd as a result of the first month's test in March. Testing of the skim-milk as a check on the efficiency of the separator is encouraged. One separator was found this month that was testing fully twice as high as it should.

Some of the entries in the ton-litter contest were inspected and ear-marked this week. Litters are too small as a rule to make a very strong showing in this contest, but the effect of the contest will be good and it is attracting considerable interest. Some of the litters are not yet farrowed. Two conferences were held with the newly elected secretary of the local fair association regarding the livestock department. The secretary of the fair is also secretary of the Montrose County Chamber of Commerce and represents that body on the committee in charge of the ton-litter contest.

Two Jersey bulls mentioned in last week's report were delivered this week. They go to a community where there has been very little purebred livestock of any kind but where more interest is being shown within the past few months. Arrangements were under way to transfer a very well-bred Holstein bull to the same locality by sale, but the man who expected to buy him had the misfortune to lose his barn by fire and changed his plans.

A visit was made with the local leader of a livestock club to the farm of a sheep breeder, and two lambs were secured for members of his club. Club work was discussed at two community meetings, at both of which some work was decided upon. At one a good class of boys signed up for work with sheep, calves, or hogs, and a later meeting was arranged to organize the club.

The hatchery installed on the Project was visited this week. The owner reports that business has been so good that he has not been able to supply all the orders received. He has made a practice of sending out nothing but strong chicks from purebred flocks and has established a reputation that should make his business very profitable another year, when he expects to increase the capacity of his plant to double the present capacity or more. He reports that his percentage of hatch has run about 75, which is much higher than most of the incubator hatches, reports of poor hatches being very common this year.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | April 25, 1925 | No. 17

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Newlands

The meteorological data recorded at this station for the period from April 6 to April 20 follows: Mean maximum temperature 70.5, maximum 78 on the 14th and 15th; mean minimum 40.1, minimum 34 on the 7th. On April 6, .16 of an inch of rain fell.

There has been some further planting of grain during this period. Barley was seeded on Y-14, 15, 16, 17, and 18. Plats 8, 9, and 10 on J were seeded to oats.

The gardener has finished transplanting the tomatoes. Some three thousand or more plants were set out in the frames in the greenhouse. The majority of these plants are for distribution to the public. Some lettuce has been transplanted. The orchard has been disced and harrowed and put in shape for the season.

One general irrigation has been given the farm. The plats irrigated were B-5 to 22, inclusive; C-2 to 13, inclusive; all of D except plats 3 and 7; E-3, 4, 5, 6; all of F except plats 3 and 15; all of G; all of J; all of H; and Y-2 to 18, inclusive. The plantings at the high school also received an irrigation.

This spring there appeared quite an epidemic of cutworms attacking the alfalfa. As fast as new shoots appeared on the crown of the plant the worms would eat them. As a result many fields looked unthrifty at a season when there should have been a good growth. This work of the cutworm will in all probability reduce the yield of the first cutting of alfalfa or make the time of cutting some two weeks later than usual.

There was hardly a farm on the project that did not show areas where the alfalfa was at a standstill. It is safe to say that 50 per cent of all alfalfa was infected.

An experiment was conducted at this station to determine the effect and expense of poisoning cutworms with a poisoned bran mash. The following formula was used: 100 pounds bran, 4 pounds white arsenic, 2 gallons molasses, and enough water to moisten. This mixture was spread throughout the alfalfa late one afternoon. Three days later a large number of dead cutworms were found. The treatment was very effective. The cost of the material amounted to 70 cents per acre.

It was due to this epidemic of cutworms that Mr. George Reeves of the U. S. Department of Agriculture visited the station and project during the last few days. He arrived from his headquarters at Salt Lake City, and during his stay collected specimens for identification after they have reached the adult moth stage.

E. W. Knight.

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending April 25 was 70, with a maximum of 82 on the 22nd; the average minimum was 37, with a minimum of 28 on the night of the 22nd. On the night of the 19th there was a light shower—.20 inch —but it was followed by a week of high

Scottsbluff (continued)

winds and did little good. The average hourly wind velocity for the week was 12.5 miles. On the 22nd there was a destructive wind from the south that did considerable damage on the light, sandy soils.

The alfalfa plats in Rotations 40, 44, 60, 61, 62, and 64, that are to be planted to potatoes and corn, were plowed during the week. The hauling of manure to Field E was continued. Considerably more pasturing will be done this year and additional fencing has had to be done. In addition to the farm breeding flock of ewes, two lots of broken-mouth ewes of 75 each were lambed out and will be used in pasture work.

All of the sheep on the farm—294 head—were sheared during the week. The fleeces averaged 8¼ pounds.

James A. Holden.

Yuma

The maximum temperature for the two-week period ending April 25 was 104°, minimum 40°, greatest daily range 51°, precipitation .46 inch.

The few days of extreme hot weather with the maximum of 104° on April 14 was followed by two days of high winds and a drop in the daily maximum temperature to 66° on April 21. The precipitation recorded on April 21 and 22 was .46 inch. This makes a total of .85 inch since January 1.

The amount of moisture that fell was a great help to some of the planted cotton. In a few instances replanting would have been necessary without this added moisture to germinate the seed. Cotton thinning on the project is well under way. The activities in the alfalfa hay sections are confined mostly to baling from the stack. Most of the acreage on the project has now been turned to seed.

Present reports on the upper regions of the Colorado River indicate that there will not be any alarming flood conditions in June or July. The present flow of the river at Yuma is approximately 15,100 second-feet.

Station work performed during the week consisted of cultivating cotton on the irrigated rotations, planting co-operative variety test, building fences around irrigation ditches, pollinating and pruning dates, and general cultivating and irrigating.

A party consisting of Porter J. Preston, project manager; J. E. Franklin, banker; F. W. Creswell, cotton and alfalfa grower; George Hill, citrus grower; and Mr. Cogland, Yuma county agent, visited the station on April 23, inspecting the experiments with commercial fertilizers on alfalfa, both on the station and on farms in this vicinity.

Edward G. Noble.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Flathead

A total of approximately 3½ inches of moisture fell during the week ending April 25. The total for April to date is slightly in excess of 4 inches of precipitation, an inch and one-third greater than the previous April record.

One club meeting was held in Arlee to explain the club work and get out the applications. Five wished to join the dairy club; five girls asked if they could have sewing, and 14 wanted garden work. Efforts were

Flathead (continued)

made to secure local leaders; and should this be possible for the several clubs, all will be assisted in getting under way. The dairy club will be organized anyway.

On Saturday the Lake County Dairymen Juniors of the north end of the project held their first meeting of the season and reorganized for the third year of work. Seven members were present. A local leader was elected, who immediately took charge. On account of rain, a third club meeting (at Lone Pine) could not be attended.

A visit was made to Charlo where some preliminary efforts had been made to interest the school folks in club work. Following a conference with the principal, it was decided not to take up the work there as great difficulty was experienced in getting animals for the club work.

This office is following the policy of a limited number of clubs, being careful to fully explain what is expected of club members, so as to limit the membership as much as possible to those who are really interested and have good prospects of completing the work in a satisfactory manner.

One farmer called for information in regard to milking machine, and the matter was gone into in considerable detail with him. Corn for variety tests was distributed to two co-operators (Moody and Garbe) in the Lone Pine and the Pablo districts.

Considerable time was spent at the office, due to rain. The car needed various repairs. One farmer called in connection with growing certified alfalfa seed. The requirements were discussed, and there are prospects for 25 acres of alfalfa. The cow tester spent parts of three days in the office, and the work was discussed with him. The gopher campaign demanded occasional attention.

Butterfat dropped two cents in price. Eggs are still 25 cents locally.

L. B. Miller.

Newlands

The damage to the alfalfa fields due to the infestation of cutworms has been considerably lessened during the week ending April 25. With few exceptions, the badly infested fields have begun to show considerable growth. A survey of the fields has shown that the infestation was very general. Some fields at this time which have shown almost no growth may be alongside another field showing a good growth, and upon examination the two fields seem to have been about equally infested by the cutworms. The only difference was that in the field showing the greatest growth the cutworms were changing over to the pupa stage, while in the fields that did not show any growth the cutworms were still in the feeding stage.

Mr. Reeves, of the Department located in Salt Lake, spent two days on the project investigating the cutworm invasion. From all appearances now there will be very little damage done to the alfalfa fields. Some of them will be retarded and the first crop will be harvested a little late.

In keeping with the usual program for disease control, publicity was given through the two local papers to the blackleg vaccination campaign. This office has always facilitated the work of the State Livestock Disease Control Service by assembling the applications for blackleg and anthrax vaccination. After the first of the month the anthrax vaccination work will begin, so an extra effort was made to complete the blackleg vac-

Newlands (continued)

cination at this time. Ten applications for blackleg vaccination were made, including 175 head of young stock.

Assistance was rendered to turkey growers who had peculiar losses in their flocks. These losses occurred while the turkey hens were sitting on the nests. Altogether twelve turkey hens died on the nests before help was called. Examination showed that these hens had died of the blackhead disease. On one ranch no preventive measures had been taken, although there were some losses last year. The reduced vitality of the turkey hens during the sitting period made them apparently unable to resist the disease. In the other instance the turkeys had been treated for blackhead prior to setting the hens, but during the sitting period they had not been given any tobacco; and this interval of 28 days without treatment resulted in the hen turkeys contracting the disease.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

The major project for the week ending April 25 was the organization of livestock clubs in Scotts Bluff County. One third-year pig club, one third-year calf club, and one two-year sheep club were reorganized with a total membership of 29. Organizations were completed for two new pig clubs and two calf clubs, with a total of 21 members. Other clubs that were started but organization not completed this week were one sheep, two calf, and two pig clubs. In the interest of club work seven schools were visited, eleven special farm calls were made, and one conference was held.

Docking and castrating lambs was demonstrated on two farms; two cows with closed milk ducts were treated; one farmer was shown how to remove the afterbirth from a cow, and another was given assistance in taking the pigs from a sow.

A meeting of the program committee of the South Sioux Poultry Association was attended and the program for the next meeting was arranged. The topic for discussion will be feeding young turkeys. A demonstration will also be given on the anatomy and physiology of the hen.

An 800-word article on "Deficiency Disease of Chicks" was prepared and sent to the local press.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The week ending April 25 has been cold and windy with a little rain on Wednesday. Farmers are planting beets and sowing small grain. Alfalfa and pastures need irrigating.

I attended the public hearings of the Garland and Frannie Divisions before the joint board of survey and adjustments on Wednesday and Thursday. Both hearings were attended by good-sized crowds of farmers.

I tested milk samples Tuesday afternoon and worked on milk sheets Friday.

Val Kuska got figures and estimates on pasturing sheep during the summer, with the idea of giving it encouragement by the Burlington Railroad.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

Secretary of the Interior Work and Dr. Elwood Mead visited the Uncompahgre Project the first of the week ending April 25. A banquet was given in their honor on Tuesday evening, after which a general meeting was held at which both these men and the president of the local Water-Users' Association spoke. The Secretary and Dr. Mead were taken over as much of the project as the time would permit. There is a general feeling that some substantial relief will be given in regard to the payment of construction charges on the project due to this inspection and to the visit of the special commission which held hearings at Montrose recently, especially on those parts of the project where the land has proved to be unproductive.

Entries in the ton-litter contest in Montrose County were marked this week, and some time was spent in Delta County in visiting hog raisers in the interest of the contest in that county. Most of the required ten entries were located and there are other prospects that will probably make more than the required number.

A flock of purebred Hampshire sheep was sheared this week and parts of two days were spent on the farm weighing the fleeces and recording the numbers of the sheep in connection with the fleece weights. The yield of wool was lower than was expected, the average weight of fleeces running only 7.5 pounds. As the weather has been cold and as the ewes lambed early, there was very little grease in the wool, which accounted in part for the light clip. There were about 110 fleeces weighed, including six rams. The variation in fleece weight was from 4.5 pounds to 10 pounds.

A meeting of the sheep club was held Saturday afternoon at the farm where the above flock is owned, in order that the members might have the opportunity to study Hampshire type with the wool off. The average of the ewes in this flock is very high with respect to general type, only one flock having been seen on the visit recently made to the farms of Hampshire breeders of Idaho that would be considered as good. Lambs in this flock are exceptionally strong this year, having been sired by a ram secured from the University of Wyoming. This ram weighed 240 pounds at 14 months of age, after having been used on 65 ewes. His sire was a 350-pound ram and his dam weighed 250 pounds.

A call was received to inspect a dairy cow sick with some unknown trouble, which was guessed to be Hemorrhagic Septicemia. Death was predicted and occurred in due time. A post-mortem examination showed typical lesions of septicemia, and other cattle on the place will be vaccinated. Three cows have died from the same apparent cause within the past week or two in different localities. The trouble is recurrent here from time to time, and some cattle breeders make a practice of vaccinating their stock regularly each year.

Markets.- The decline in the hog market has been the principal change in market quotations since last report, amounting to 3 cents a pound from the recent peak. The present top at Denver is only $11.50. Sheep have also declined but have come back somewhat on the Denver market this week, being quoted at $14.25 as compared with $13.75 a week ago. Cattle remain nearly steady at $10 top. Butterfat still brings 39 cents locally in first-grade cream. Eggs hold at 25 cents.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | May 2, 1925 | No. 18

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Huntley

With an unusually early spring season and conditions favorable for field work during the month of April, seeding of all crops excepting corn, potatoes, and beans was completed during the week ending May 2. The amount of rainfall during the winter and spring has been deficient and crops are at present badly in need of moisture. Irrigation will be started during the coming week.

Winter wheat locally and in many other parts of the State suffered severe winter injury and in many cases is a total loss. Some of the dry lands were reseeded to spring wheat, while in many cases the land on which the loss of winter wheat occurred will be seeded to corn and beans.

Following the settlement of the controversy between growers and the Sugar Company as to the price to be paid for the beet crop, about 4500 acres of beets have been contracted for on the Huntley Project. Under the new contract, farmers are to receive an initial payment of $6.50 per ton, an increase of 50 cents per ton over the first payment for the 1924 crop. Other additional payments have, however, been made for that crop and the total so far received is $8.00 per ton, with a prospect of still another payment of perhaps $1.00 per ton.

The Bureau of Reclamation Board of Survey held hearings on the project during most of the week on proposals for readjustment of construction and water charges and classification of project lands. The members of this Board are Dr. John A. Widtsoe, Andrew Weiss, and I. D. O'Donnell.

The maximum temperature for the week was 74, minimum 18, and precipitation .04 inch.

Dan Hansen.

Newlands

The meteorological data recorded at this station for the period from April 20 to May 2 follows: Mean maximum temperature 68.5, maximum 84 on May 2; mean minimum, 37.8, minimum 29 on April 24. The rainfall was .24 of an inch, .01 falling on April 20, .11 on April 21, and .12 on April 22.

The minimum temperature of 29 recorded on April 24 did not cause any damage to the fruit that had blossomed by that time. During the early part of this period there were three or four days of continued high winds. So much sand was blown about in the garden that it was necessary to replant most of the earlier vegetables.

The field work has consisted of spring-tooth harrowing the alfalfa, spraying the orchard with lime sulphur and lead arsenate spray, and putting in irrigation boxes at the high school grounds.

An experiment in reclaiming alkaline soil has been started on plat Y-14. Two and a half tons of gypsum were spread on the surface. This was plowed under. As the plow turned the furrow-slice, men followed applying

Newlands (continued)

gypsum in the bottom of the furrow. Then more gypsum was applied to the plowed surface and harrowed. In all 4½ tons of gypsum were applied to the plat, which has an area of one-half acre, making the application on the basis of 9 tons to the acre.

A potato variety test has been started at the high school grounds. Following is the plan of the experiment:

Row 1, 2	Check
Row 3, 4	British Queen
Row 5, 6	Check
Row 7, 8	Portland Netted Gem
Row 9, 10	Check
Row 11, 12	American Wonder
Row 13, 14	Check
Row 15, 16	Pride of Multnomah
Row 17, 18	Check
Row 19	Quick Lunch
Row 20, 21	Check
Row 22	British Queen
Row 23	Check
Row 24	Quick Lunch
Row 25	Check
Row 26	British Queen

The following grass and clovers have been planted at the high school: meadow fescue, red fescue, tall fescue, hard fescue, orchard grass, tall oat grass, brome grass, English rye grass, Canadian blue grass, red top, Kentucky blue grass, timothy, red clover, alsike clover, white clover, and mammoth red clover.

Mr. Snow of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has been stopping at the station for a few days. He was sent out to the project from Salt Lake City to study the cutworm problem. He finds that the main damage from these pests is now past. The worms have, in the worst cases, reached the pupa stage in their development. He has gathered a great number of pupae and worms and is trying to rear the adult moths for identification. Mr. Snow also wishes to discover, if possible, the parasites that might attack the worms and thus determine some natural controls.

It was noticed earlier in the season in two plats planted to alfalfa varieties that the Grimm and Cossack varieties showed less damage than the other varieties. When it is considered that these varieties were planted in rows with other varieties and that there were two plats, one being a duplication of the other, it is rather interesting to find the same condition existing in both plats. A possible explanation is that the Grimm and Cossack send out more shoots from the crown and that the same amount of worms feeding on these varieties would not produce such a marked damaged appearance as a similar amount of the worms attacking any of the other varieties.

E. W. Knight.

San Antonio

The maximum temperature recorded at the San Antonio Experiment Farm during the three weeks ending April 25 was 98 (April 18 and 20), the minimum temperature was 57 (April 16), and the greatest daily range was

San Antonio (continued)

35 (April 17). Sixteen days were recorded as clear, two as partly cloudy, and 3 as cloudy. There was a trace of precipitation on April 7. The mean wind movement during the first 25 days of April was 50 per cent above the normal for the month.

The condition of crops on the station and in the San Antonio region in general is very discouraging. All winter grains have been complete failures; corn and sorghums have not emerged on the black land and are suffering for moisture where germination was secured on some of the more sandy soils; and cotton planting is being withheld until rain comes. Pastures have furnished no feed for the past three or four months and stock water is becoming a serious problem with ranchers who have to depend on tanks (ponds).

Eradication of Johnson grass by disking, chopping, and pulling has been stressed during the period. Other station work has included irrigating nursery and grounds plantings from the city water supply, spraying orchards and nurseries, repairing and painting buildings, and soil moisture sampling.

Mr. H. H. Schutz, agricultural statistician, with headquarters at Houston, Texas, was a station visitor on April 10.

Geo. T. Ratliffe.

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending May 2 was 66, with a maximum of 77 on the 1st of May; the average minimum was 33, with a minimum of 16 on the morning of the 29th. This freeze killed a good many beets that were just coming through the ground. There was a light shower on the 27th—.06 inch--but not enough to do any good.

Water was turned into the laterals the latter part of April, but on account of scarcity of water in the Main Canal very little was available for irrigation. Some of the grass pastures in Field B and the sweet clover and alfalfa in Fields A and C have had some irrigation.

The balance of the experimental lambs and a half car of hogs were shipped the latter part of the week.

There is considerable fear of a scarcity of water for irrigation this year. It is reported that the snowfall in the mountains in the North Platte watershed is below normal, and on account of the warm weather this spring a good deal of the spring run-off is already in the reservoir. On May 1 there was about 583,000 acre-feet of water in the Pathfinder Reservoir, which is about 90 per cent of the average for that date. The inflow into the Pathfinder Reservoir is only a little more than half what it has been in former years, and at this time the outflow considerably exceeds the inflow.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

Dr. Niederauer, State veterinarian, on his visit to the project during the week ending April 25 tested five dairy herds (first test) for the eradication of tuberculosis under the accredited-herd agreement plan. Of the 76 animals tested in the five herds, four reactors were found.

Belle Fourche (continued)

Sixteen herds were recommended to be removed from the waiting list, as the owners had either sold or exchanged cattle or were so situated that they ran their young stock on the range during the summer months and could not keep within the requirements of the accredited-herd agreement. To date twenty herds have passed the first test with no reactors, while six herds have shown reactors on the first test. Of the 547 animals tested, eleven reactors have been found. Three herds of the project are accredited; and twelve herds will receive the second test this summer, and if free of tuberculosis will be placed on the accredited-herd list.

Six bands of sheep were dipped for scabies eradication during the week. One day was spent with Dr. Niederauer on tubercular work and parts of two days with Dr. Davis on sheep inspection work in the southern part of the project and in Meade County. One poultry club meeting was attended on Saturday.

Sheep dipping for the eradication of scabies continued during the week ending May 2; six bands of sheep were dipped under supervision. There will be little more dipping until after shearing, when many of the large bands on the range of range sheep and bands made of groups of sheep from project farms will have one dipping. So far as we know, there is no active scab present in any flocks at the present time. Quarantines will not be lifted from exposed sheep until the premises, yards, and sheds have been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

Parts of two days of the week were spent in making arrangements for the farmers' picnic to be held on the Nisland fair grounds on the 6th of June. It is planned to follow the successful method of last year by having the communities of the county provide much of their own entertainment by giving playlets or stunts on the stage of the pavilion on the fair grounds. Last year four communities put on vaudeville acts that were good and aided materially in bringing out a large gathering of 700 farmers and their families. County Agent Ellison has secured a speaker from the State college who will talk on the cooperative marketing organizations of the State following the usual business meeting and the community entertainments.

The Federal Board of Survey and Adjustments met with the irrigation district board of the Belle Fourche Irrigation Project during the week, making a personal inspection and investigation of the local conditions and securing first-hand information upon which to base their report and recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior. The Federal board consisted of ex-Governor Thos. E. Campbell, of Arizona; Hon. F. N. Goodwin, former Assistant Secretary of the Interior; and Hon. B. F. Meyers, Commissioner of Agriculture for South Dakota. It is felt that the commission through its personal contact with the local conditions will be able to make recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior tending to the relief and betterment of the local settlers.

Serum and virus for cholera immunization has been ordered for two farmers. No cholera outbreaks are known; but with higher prices assured for the feeder and fat stock, a more general use of serum and virus to secure immunization may be expected.

Eggs are worth 20 cents per dozen and butterfat 35 cents per pound on the local markets.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

There was practically no precipitation during the week ending May 2, but the warm weather has caused a considerable quantity of the snow on the mountains to melt, and the reservoirs are filling up rapidly. A very satisfying amount of water is already in the reservoirs and much snow is still on the mountains.

On two days during the week 4-H club work received attention. One calf club of five members and a girls' club of fifteen members were organized in Arlee and local leaders for each were secured. Other conferences on club work were held, especially with Mr. Kiracofe of Moiese, local leader there last year, relative to reorganization and local leadership. Plans were made for organization of the Moiese clubs the following week, and local leaders were secured for both the livestock and girls' club of the Moiese. The girls are starting their fifth year of club work there. A club member's sow and litter were inspected. Arrangements were made to have seed corn provided pig club members for raising feed.

Three farmers called in regard to pastures, two being given the irrigated pasture mixtures. The third is putting in 35 acres of white flowered sweet clover for pasturage.

One flock of poultry was inspected to determine the cause of numerous deaths among the chickens. Tuberculosis was demonstrated in typical form. A garget control method was given to one farmer. Corn for variety trials was delivered to two co-operators, and conference regarding conduct of trials was held with each.

Rodent control work demanded some attention. Five farmers and the county commissioners made office calls regarding results of poison and arranged for more materials for poisoned grain; visited irrigation project headquarters at St. Ignatius regarding same.

One community meeting was attended and prospects of hay marketing through organizations and through sheep on the project were discussed. The Women's Vacation Camp was explained. Arrangements were made for a meeting with the State poultry specialistiin August. Some time was spent in conference with cow tester and in preparing press articles on project herds and cows as revealed through association records. A meeting of the fair committee took the greater part of one day, when arrangements for prizes were made and premium list prepared tentatively.

On the local market butterfat prices are 35 and 37 cents for No. 1 cream; ranch butter is 37½ cents; and eggs are still 25 cents.

L. B. Miller

Minidoka

Two days of the week ending April 25 were spent writing publicity and outlining records and papers for the Egg Show to be held at Burley on May 2. The reason for holding an Egg Show is to disseminate information on the care, packing, and handling of eggs for the market. Less attention will be paid to the fancier's problems.

Seed corn for variety test was distributed. Eight varieties are to be tried out in an effort to arrive at some conclusions as to the variety best adapted for grain and ensilage production on the project.

Calf club calves and cows (19 head) arrived from Boise Valley and were unloaded and moved to Declo.

One day of the week ending May 2 was spent inspecting Guernsey

Minidoka (continued)

herds near Gooding in which local farmers are interested. Two young cows were found at Steele's, but the price was too high. There were also some good young bulls, well bred, with good records back of them, at fair prices. Demonstration seed corn was secured from R. O. Ward.

Calf club calves and the cows brought in with them were appraised and distributed. Eleven heifers were placed with the boys, and the rest were distributed among farmers of the neighborhood who wanted them. Calves were delivered to the calf club boys at prices ranging from $85.30 to $130.30, depending on the age, quality, and condition. The lowest-priced heifer was a six months old calf, and the highest-priced was a bred two-year old heifer. The average expense was $7.30.

A news article of about 500 words was written on some of the ailments of dairy cattle and how to treat them.

The planting of eight varieties of corn was supervised, average 1¼ acres each. The varieties were as follows:

Western Plowman
Wisconsin Grown Minn. 13
An early strain of Rustlers White Dent
Calico Corn
Frost Resistant Golden Glow
Home Grown Minnesota 13
A later strain of Rustlers White Dent
Squaw Corn.

On Saturday a Project Egg Show was held at Burley. Considering the fact that it was the first show and coming at a busy season, it was a decided success. There were 22 exhibits; and 75 people stayed for the demonstrations and lectures. The agriculturist constructed a demonstration candler on which a dozen eggs could be placed at a time and lighted so that 35 or 40 people could see at one time. An interesting development of the judging and candling exhibits was the fact that the exhibit which had high outward appearances of being a winner was disqualified by eggs containing blood clots. Poultrymen who are shipping eggs were much interested in the exhibits, judging, and demonstration. The show was voted a success, and it was decided to hold next year's exhibit at Rupert.

J. T. Montgomery.

Newlands

During the week ending May 2 some time was given to assisting in an outbreak of red water. Three cases occurred on three different farms. This is quite a serious trouble in the western part of the State, and there has been considerable loss of cattle in some localities. The ailment seems to occur here principally in cows during the first month or so after calving. Very excellent results have been secured in nursing the cases of red water in this vicinity. Very few losses have occurred where treatment was given. The usual method of procedure, which has been developed locally, is to give heavy doses three times a day of stimulating drugs, accompanied with sufficient epsom salts to keep the bowels very free. The prescription is as follows: Powdered nux vomica one part, powdered ginger one part, powdered gentian two parts, and powdered iron sulphate one part. These drugs are thoroughly mixed and administered at the rate of two table spoonfuls three times a day, given in the dry form and placed on the back of the

Newlands (continued)

tongue. The treatment must be continued for several days to bring about recovery. Immediate treatment upon noticing the trouble is very essential, according to local experiences.

During the past week assistance was rendered in the selection of two dairy bulls, and a third registered Jersey bull was received into the project, previously selected from Utah.

The cutworm situation is rapidly improving, and the farmers are no longer anxious about it. One article was prepared for the local press on this subject. A second article was prepared for the local papers covering an outbreak of rabies in one district. This was written to acquaint the people with the situation and to serve as a warning, so that precautions could be taken for the safety of both the families and the livestock.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

Most of the week ending May 2 was spent in livestock club work in Scotts Bluff County. One pig club and one dairy calf club were organized, and the applications were sent to the Lincoln office. One more sheep club and two calf clubs are under way, but organizations are not yet completed.

Some time was devoted to locating pigs and calves for club members. It is not an easy task to find enough outstanding individuals to supply the demand. Nine farmers and breeders were visited for this special purpose. Purebred pigs that are registered and immune are costing from $10 to $15. Some of the calf club members have their own calves, and the sheep club boys do not have to buy lambs.

Thirty calves were vaccinated against blackleg, and a castrating demonstration was given at the same farm.

The spring pigs at the Experiment Farm, consisting of 100 head, were vaccinated and some of them were sprayed and put on pasture.

The April test of milk samples was made for members of the Sheep Creek bull club. The total number of cows tested this month was 47.

Two requests were received to examine sick turkeys, and sick chickens were prescribed for on two farms.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The week ending May 2 has been very favorable for field work. Two-thirds of the beet acreage is planted and a larger part of the potatoes. Some small grain is coming up.

County Agent Allen and I visited the Powell and Garland schools in regard to club work. A large number of boys are interested in sheep and would like to join a sheep club.

Four of the grass pastures seeded last year were visited and stands noted. Three of the four have good stands. Considerable alfalfa has been winter-killed on the Garland Division. It is impossible to determine, yet, the extent of the damage as many crowns are sending out a few small, weak shoots.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

During the week ending May 2 a conference was held with the county leader of boys' and girls' clubs of Delta County with reference to a summer club camp and other matters relating to the club work. There will be about 150 members enrolled in the Delta County clubs this year, which is more than in any previous year. Sheep clubs are being organized in two new communities. The plan for the summer camp contemplates a three- or four-day encampment on Grand Mesa for all members and local leaders. On the dates set for the camp, August 13-15, the State club leader is due to be in Delta County and will be expected to attend. Half of each day will be devoted to demonstrations by the different clubs, the remainder of the time being given to contests and recreation. Montrose County is invited to join in the camp, but it has not yet been decided that this will be done.

Final arrangements for the entry of Delta County in the State ton-litter contest were made this week when the required number of entries were secured. The litters will be ear-marked as soon as it can be done—probably next week. Satisfactory interest is being manifested in this contest in both Montrose and Delta Counties. The agriculturist has been requested to submit a statement of the plan and the aims of the contest for publication in the New Reclamation Era.

Conferences were held with the secretaries of both the local fair and the State fair. There has been some question as to whether there would be a State fair this year or not, but the secretary states that the fair will be held as usual. The State Legislature failed to make any appropriation for the fair, and there is a large deficit from last year; but the merchants of Pueblo have agreed to support the fair, so that it will not be permitted to lapse.

At a meeting of the newly organized community club near Delta on Friday night, a short discussion of sheep feeding was given. There has been much interest in this subject in that particular section where some 10,000 lambs were very profitably finished for market last year on beet tops and hay. No effort was made to encourage the feeding of greater numbers of lambs, as it is feared that the idea is already rather over-popular. Literature on lamb feeding in this State was distributed and caution was expressed against the overdoing of what has so far proved to be a good thing for the community.

A 30-acre field which is being prepared for pasture was inspected. It is in ideal condition; and if it turns out as well as is hoped, it will be used later for demonstration purposes.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | May 9, 1925 | No. 19

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Huntley

The maximum temperature for the week ending May 9 was 67, minimum 24, and precipitation .22 inch.

Dry and cold weather prevailed during the week with frosts severe enough to damage fruit buds and field crops.

Water was placed in the canals on May 8 and preparation is being made to irrigate crops that are up. While some of the earlier planted grains and beets have germinated partly, the stands are ununiform and fields generally are in rather poor condition.

Field work during the week consisted of cleaning and repairing ditches for irrigation, and preparing land for seeding corn, potatoes, and beans.

Dan Hansen.

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending May 9 was 62, with a maximum of 67 on the 6th; the average minimum was 34, with a minimum of 28 on the 4th and 5th. On the night of the 7th there was a general rain over all the valley, as well as over most of the States in the Great Plains area. In this valley it averaged about half an inch. It was followed by cool, cloudy weather.

The plowing and preparation of ground in Field E for corn and potatoes was continued, and the first planting of potatoes in the time-of-planting test was made on the 7th.

A fairly good head of water was available most of the week, and the alfalfa, sweet clover, and grass pastures in Fields A, B, C, and D were irrigated.

Quite an extensive campaign was put on by the Burlington and Union Pacific railroads throughout the beet-growing districts in Nebraska and Colorado during the week. Their slogan was, "A ton more of beets to the acre for 1925." Special trains were run by both roads, and exhibits were carried showing the beet plant at various stages of growth and the advantages of proper thinning. The Superintendent accompanied the Union Pacific train throughout the tour as the representative of the University of Nebraska.

James A. Holden.

Yuma

The following meteorological data were recorded for the two-week period ending May 9: maximum 102°, minimum 48°, greatest daily range 49°, precipitation 0.

With the exception of a few days around May 3 to 5 the weather has been quite moderate with an average amount of wind.

Activities on the Project are confined mostly to thinning and

Yuma (continued)

cultivating cotton and the baling of the first cutting of alfalfa hay. Prices for baled hay remain around $16 to $18 per ton.

Work performed on the station during the two-week period consisted of harvesting and threshing barley and wheat varieties, both on the variety test and the irrigated rotations; harvesting the second cutting of alfalfa hay on all tests; cultivating cotton; hoeing borders and roadways; and general irrigating.

An educational program in the use of fertilizer was undertaken the week of May 4 to 9. The results of fertilizer tests were discussed at farm bureau meetings at Somerton, Gadsden, and the Rood district in the Yuma Valley. The campaign terminated with the field tour and demonstration on the experiment farm on Saturday the 9th. This program was arranged under the auspices of the Water Users' Association of the Project in co-operation with the Reclamation Service, the County Agent, and the Experiment Stations.

Messrs. R. E. Blair and Arnold, both of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Grain Standardization of California, were station visitors on April 26 and 27. County horticultural commissioner B. E. Harrigan and County Agricultural Advisor E. L. Garthwaite, of Imperial County, visited the station on April 28.

Edward G. Noble.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

During the week ending May 9 bands of sheep were dipped for scabies at three farms. There are still 15 bands of sheep to be dipped, mostly on the range.

One trip was made to Belle Fourche in the Experiment Farm truck in which 10 Corriedale ewes were brought back to the project for use in the Corriedale sheep club.

Parts of two days were spent with C. F. Hall, of Hot Springs, inspecting the registered Ayrshire cattle he shipped into the project last fall. The cattle all look fine, and the farmers are well pleased with the bargains made with Mr. Hall. Mr. Hall charges 6 per cent interest to the club members and 7 per cent to others. Banks would charge 10 per cent interest besides other security, and insurance would also be required in some cases. The present indications are that the cattle will be entirely paid for within two years.

Part of one day was spent with County Agent Ellison on club and county fair work. Butterfat tests were run for one dairyman.

Eggs are quoted at 20 cents per dozen and butterfat at 34 cents per pound on our local markets.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

The weather was fair and warm during the entire week ending May 9 and was excellent for growing crops. Practically no irrigation has been done so far. Some water was turned into the ditches the middle of the week, but very little was used. Late-sown winter wheat appears to be 25

Flathead (continued)

to 75 per cent winter killed, while the early-sown grain seems to have been damaged but little.

Two club meetings were attended and directed, and a conference was held with two local leaders. One pig club member was visited and advised on feeding and control of skin disease appearing on the little pigs.

One flock of 74 hens was culled and the method demonstrated; 34 hens were culled out. A meeting near Round Butte was attended, and a poultry meeting with Miss Cushman of the State Extension Service was planned.

The matter of weighing fleeces at shearing time for use in culling flocks was discussed with two sheep men. Both were favorable if arrangements were such that shearing did not occur when the agriculturist was attending the conference at Fort Collins. They were planning to shear the last of May.

Cow-testing association reports were checked and it was found that 10 of the 29 herds in the Association last year,for at least nine months, had averaged 300 pounds butterfat or over and had qualified for membership in the "Three Hundred Pound Herd Honor Roll," established by the National Dairy Association. It is felt that this is an enviable record for the Flathead Project herds. It was also discovered that one 365 pound fat cow had previously been omitted. This brings the total to 40 cows out of 270 who averaged a daily production of at least a pound of fat a day for 365 days.

Further trials with poisoned oats and calcium cyanide were made on gophers in the field. Hull-less oats were used instead of the steam-rolled previously prepared, and better results were obtained. The calcium cyanide resulted in practically 100 per cent effectiveness in the small number of burrows treated.

Office calls on contagious abortion, the danger of poisoning from wild parsnips, and rodent poisoning were given attention. A Dairy Tour in the Jocko Valley in June was taken up with the community club president and others of that Valley. One dairyman was assisted in locating suitable Guernsey bull calves, he wishing to get one with good production backing to improve his purebred herd now on test.

Butterfat prices are 33 and 35 cents locally. Eggs are 25 cents a dozen.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

Two days of the week ending May 9 were spent on calf club matters. On Thursday all of the farms were visited on which the calves were placed, and the matter of handling and feeding them was investigated and discussed with fathers of the boys. On Saturday a meeting of the boys was held at the home of two of the members. They were started in their record-keeping and were given instruction in breaking their calves to lead and in elementary judging.

The poultry co-operators were visited, inspecting their flocks and plants and methods of handling laying flocks and brooding baby chicks. They were practically all following the instructions outlined by the Poultry Department of the University of Idaho; and in all cases except one the brooding of baby chicks was going on in a most satisfactory manner.

Minidoka (continued)

Two farmers were assisted in registering Holstein calves, one in treating sheep for "Pink"Eye", one in managing an incubator, one in selecting a herd bull, and one in selecting a herd boar.

To get some idea of what might be expected in the returns from a case of eggs shipped cooperatively, the agriculturist and a farmer, Mr. Moy, candled and packed a case of eggs for shipment. These eggs were not more than two days old and were gathered carefully and cooled in a well ventilated cooling room. From these fresh eggs, carefully handled, 14 cracks, 4 dirties, 4 blood spots, and 1 rot were candled out. This demonstration was made to show the farmer what factors were causing lower grades than he expected on his eggs.

The weather continues excellent for all growing crops. The project has had several good showers. Work in the beet fields is beginning. Alfalfa prospects are good.

John T. Montgomery.

Newlands

The report for the week ending May 9 is as follows:

The cooperative rabbit-feeding experiment, which has been carried on during the month of April, shows some very interesting results. The most surprising feature of the experiment was the enormous amount of alfalfa hay eaten by the rabbits in proportion to the live weight. Another interesting feature was the small amount of hay eaten to make a pound of gain. Thirty young rabbits with an initial weight of about one pound at one month of age at the beginning of the experiment consumed hay during the month at the rate of 15.8 per cent of their weight each day. They produced one pound of gain for 7½ pounds of hay, and made an average daily gain of 1.9 per cent. This lot of rabbits were fed good third-crop alfalfa hay with no supplement. When it is realized that a dairy cow will eat an amount of hay equal to only 3½ per cent of her weight each day, this large amount of hay eaten by rabbits is almost unbelieveable. The economy of gains is also remarkable. With hay at $10 a ton these rabbits produced meat at 4½ cents per pound live weight, which is by far the cheapest production secured on any meat animal. The selling price of rabbits on the Newlands Project is approximately 14½ cents per pound live weight.

A second lot of rabbits, about 60 in number, have been fed on good second-crop alfalfa hay, but with far less satisfactory results. This is in keeping with results of feeding second-crop alfalfa hay to dairy stock. The per cent of daily hay eaten by this second lot amounted to 13.7 in proportion to their weight. The hay required to make one pound of gain amounted to 11.6 pounds. The per cent of daily gain amounted to 1.04. These last results illustrate the great difference in the feeding of good and poor hay by the rabbit grower.

This rabbit-growing experiment will be conducted for some time yet and other phases will be taken up.

A special study has been made during the month of some rabbit ailments and successful methods of treatment have been worked out. All of these observations will be compiled and made available for those interested in rabbit production on the project.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

The local poultry association met Monday evening of the week ending May 9. About 250 people were present, filling the school house to overflowing. The topic for discussion was the feeding and care of young turkeys. The agriculturist also gave a demonstration on the internal structure of a fowl. Steps were taken to order another car of feed. Local feed dealers were present and made prices on feeds in car-lots to association members. Interest in the association continues to grow. At the meeting the first Monday in June arrangements will be completed for marketing live chickens in car-lots. The county agents in the Valley are co-operating with the association in the marketing proposition.

One pulling demonstration was given this week; 150 hens were handled and 40 non-layers were discarded. Tuberculosis was detected in this flock. A post-mortem demonstration was given, and the owner was advised how to proceed to clean up.

Bulls were changed in two bull clubs in the west end of the project. One young bull was put out temporarily. A member of the Sheep Creek bull club, whose herd has increased to the extent that he needs a bull of his own, decided to buy a bull calf for future use. He was accompanied to a local breeder and assistance was given him in selecting a calf. Two other young bulls were selected this week for farmers and one purebred heifer calf was selected for a calf club member.

Two more dairy calf clubs and one sheep club were organized in Scotts Bluff County. This county now has 6 calf, 4 pig, and 2 sheep clubs. Morrill County has 1 calf and 2 pig clubs.

Spring pigs were immunized in two herds. The total number vaccinated was 125.

D. H. Propps.

Uncompahgre

Part of the week ending May 9 was spent on the farm of a local sheep breeder who wished to have the fleeces of his sheep weighed individually. On account of rain the work was delayed and so took considerably longer than would have been the case with good weather. One hundred and eighteen head were shorn, including five rams. Eight head of the ewes were purebred Hampshires shipped in from Idaho in January. All of these Idaho ewes have proved to be light shearers, but as they are thin and lambed early it is thought that they may show up better next year. The flock averaged only a little over seven pounds of wool per head, with a variation of from 4 to 14 pounds. Yearling rams used in the flock last fall varied from 5.5 to 13.3 pounds. The owner became very much interested in the idea and wishes to continue for a number of years until the flock average has been raised to what he thinks it should be. Everything shearing over seven pounds was marked, there being 61 of these including the rams, or less than 52 per cent. The effect of good blood was shown by twin yearling ewes that averaged 12 pounds of good wool, both being good individuals as well.

The field man from the office of the State Dairy Commission visited the project to see a Holstein bull that had been advertised for sale with the idea of buying it for the College herd. The bull had been sold; but two herds with highly bred bulls for sale or lease were visited, and a bull was selected that was considered satisfactory. The livestock special-

Uncompahgre

ist from the State Extension Service also visited Montrose and Delta Counties on range investigations, and a visit was made with him and Mr. Tucker, Montrose County Agent, to one of the cattle ranges. Calls were made on a number of cattle men, and two were found who are willing to co-operate in a range management project in connection with the use of pastures as a spring supplement of the range for early feeding before grass on the range is sufficient to keep stock without shrinkage.

The Smith-Hughes classes from seven high schools held the annual stock-judging contest on Saturday, at which this office was asked to act as judge. Draft horses, dairy cattle, beef cattle, fat hogs, and breeding ewes were judged. Oral reasons were given on one class and written reasons on the other four. The work of the contestants was very creditable in most cases, although some of the classes of livestock were not at all satisfactory.

A meeting of the Directors of the County Farm Bureau was called for the afternoon of Thursday to meet a representative of the American Farm Bureau Federation, but it was poorly attended. The meeting was for the purpose of discussing a plan which would stimulate interest in the Farm Bureau and help to build up the membership, the organization in Montrose being practically dead at this time.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
OF THE OFFICES OF
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
AND
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | May 16, 1925 | No. 20

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Newlands

The meteorological data recorded at this station for the two-week period ending May 16 follows: Mean maximum temperature 74, maximum 85 on the 4th and 5th; mean minimum 42.3, minimum on the 8th. The total rainfall was .22 of an inch, .01 of an inch falling on May 5, .06 on the 11th, .12 on the 13th, and .03 on the 16th.

The mild temperatures occurring so far this spring have given the project farmers hopes that this will be a record year for fruit. So far, an abundance of all fruits have been set, and they are so far advanced that it will take a hard freeze to do them any material damage.

There has been a great deal of planting in the garden during this period. The field plantings have consisted of ensilage corn on F-3, F-15; E-1, 2, 7, and 8; and D-7. Two varieties were used, namely, Rainbow and Red Cob ensilage. At the High School grounds the variety test of field corn consists of five rows each of Rainbow flint, De Wolf's Prolific, Squaw, Early Murdock, Wisconsin No.7, Wimple's Yellow Dent, Champion White Pearl, and Northwestern Dent.

There have also been plantings made at the High School of flax, buckwheat, sudan grass, and Japanese millet.

Plat D-4 at the station was planted to beets. There has been a general irrigation during this period. The following plats were irrigated: B-5-22, inclusive; C-2-13, inclusive; all of D but plats 4 and 7; all of F but plats 3 and 15; all of G; all of H; all of J; and Y-2-18, inclusive.

E. W. Knight.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

During the week ending May 16 bands of exposed sheep belonging to Omer Merrill and Loren Eichler were dipped for scabies. Thirty-one bands of sheep have been dipped on the project since the middle of March. There are not over six bands yet to be dipped under the ditch, but there are twelve large bands that will be dipped on the range after shearing. A circular letter to 40 sheepmen was sent out from this office regarding the cleaning and disinfecting of premises. The railway yards at Nisland and Newell are being cleaned thorcughly and kept in a sanitary condition; they will be sprayed during the coming week and frequently during the shipping season.

Samples of milk were gathered at three farms, and butter-fat tests were run for four dairymen. A cheese-maker from Wisconsin is scheduled to be on the project the doming week in connection with the proposed cheese factory. The dairymen of Newell and Vale are now behind this proposition and have subscribed enough stock in a co-operative organization

Belle Fourche (continued)

to assure a cheese factory. There are 800 cows within seven miles of Vale, and it is planned to establish five milk routes to deliver milk daily to this place. One article was prepared for publication on the cheese factory proposition.

Members of the sheep, poultry, and pig clubs together with their leaders held an interesting meeting Wednesday evening at Newell, when the plans for the coming summer were discussed. Stereopticon lantern slides on sheep, poultry, and pigs were shown and breeds and judging discussed.

The horns were sawed off of two of the registered bulls belonging to Ayrshire club members. Aid was given three of the members in the care and feeding of calves. Due to sickness among the school children, no dairy club meetings have been held for over a month.

During the week we had a much-needed rainfall, amounting to 1½ inches. The small grains were up and looking well; but the ground was becoming dry, and, with corn largely planted and little moisture left, the corn crop outlook was dubious. Now the prospects are bright for good crops of all kinds.

Butter-fat is bringing 36 cents and eggs 20 cents locally.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

During the week ending May 16, 4-H club work received considerable attention. One poultry meeting was held at Polson; many people already have eggs hatching. Chick management was discussed, and the matter of formal organization into a 4-H poultry club was presented and favorably received. Arrangements were then made to have Chas. E. Potter, State club leader, organize this club and discuss club work on the following Tuesday. Arrangements were also made to have Mr. Potter meet with local club leaders at Ronan on the following Wednesday for a conference. On Thursday club folks will be visited and a conference held with local leaders in the Lone Pine district. Club work will also be presented to the Polson Kiwanis.

One pig club member was visited and his sow with recently farrowed litter inspected and management discussed. J. U. Williams, of Polson, was conferred with regarding poultry club work and organization.

One rancher was given assistance in the treatment of milk fever in a recently freshened cow. Blackhead as the cause of the death of a gobbler was demonstrated for another man, and two bulletins on turkeys were given to him. Two calves were vaccinated for blackleg. One farmer called for information regarding a cow with swelled udder. Two farmers were interviewed regarding corn variety trials. A creamery man at Polson was interviewed relative to securing a dairy manufacturing specialist to assist and demonstrate creamery practices in his creamery. Three interviews were had in connection with Fair premiums and committee meetings, and arrangements were made with the Fair secretary to present fair work at two meetings the coming week. The rodent extermination work demanded attention by farm and office calls to learn field results of newly prepared poisons. Parts of two days were used getting data from Reclamation office and other sources relative to project livestock, crops, population,

Flathead (continued)

cream produced.

On the local market butter-fat in No.1 cream is bringing 33 and 35 cents, and eggs are 25 cents a dozen.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

Two news articles were written for the paper during the week ending May 16. In the absence of the veterinarian, one cow was successfully treated for severe impaction. Five head of cattle were inspected and entered for registration for three farmers. One farmer was assisted in selling a cow and two others in purchasing a cow. A conference was held with Project Superintendent Darlington, at Burley, concerning this year's program of livestock demonstration and for information on 1925 prospective plantings. Three herds of cattle were visited in which cow pox was prevalent and proper sanitation and methods of combatting the disease were given.

The weather on the project continues very fine. The good rains of the past week are bringing crops on in fine shape. Practically all planting except beans is done.

John T. Montgomery.

Newlands

On Thursday of the week ending May 16 a trip was made to Reno, Nevada, to confer with the Extension and the Veterinary Departments and to consult with the Experiment Station men who are working on the control of alfalfa weevil. The spraying and dusting methods with calcium arsenate for the control of alfalfa weevil is being studied to see which is preferable. The dusting method, where 20 per cent of calcium arsenate and 80 per cent of sulphur are used in a specially prepared fine mixture, gives promise of being a very efficient and convenient method of control. Extensive experiments will be conducted during the summer along these lines, beginning in the next few days. Since the alfalfa weevil has been found on the Newlands Project, there will no doubt be need for control measures here very shortly.

On Saturday of the past week a rabbit-growing experiment that has been carried on since March was brought to a close, and the rabbits were weighed for the last time. The final calculations have not been made, but the results are not expected to be very different from those previously reported. During the time of this experiment some very interesting observations were made on the treatment of intestinal coccidiosis of young rabbits not in the experiment. To combat this disease in affected stock, two methods of treatment were used, both of which were quite effective. For one- to one and a half-pound rabbits, ten drops of a mixture of equal parts of fluid extract of nux vomica, ginger, and gentian with a half teaspoonful of epsom salts saturated solution were given. This was repeated on the second day, and the rabbits were put into new quarters. The second method of treatment consisted in giving each rabbit a full medicine dropper of castor oil, putting the rabbits into new quarters. Beneficial results were very noticeable, and the losses were almost entirely stopped. One of the symptoms of this disease

Newlands (continued)

is the chronic bloating of the rabbits.

One 1200-word article was prepared for the local press on the outlook for prices of dairy products this year.

L. E. Cline.

North Platte

The greater part of the week ending May 16 was taken up with calf and pig club work. Two calf clubs started keeping records. Calves and pigs were located for other clubs. A purebred Holstein bull calf was selected for one of the oldest breeders in the valley. This man is now using one of the bulls loaned by the Experiment Farm. Two vaccinating demonstrations were given; 83 pigs were given the double treatment. A lecture and demonstration on poultry diseases was given at the regular monthly meeting of the farm bureau in Cedar Valley. An article of 600 words was prepared and sent to the local press.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The week ending May 9 has been favorable for field work. A little rain Thursday night made fields too wet to work Friday morning. Some of the earlier planted beets are coming up. Frosts have injured fruit blossoms.

Two shearers started shearing sheep with a machine on May 7. All but three or four small flocks will be sheared at seven or eight farms, four or five flocks being sheared at each place. I spent one and a half days weighing fleeces to get an idea of the variation in weight and grade in the same flock. One of the most uniform flocks was weighed this week, and we expect to weigh the fleeces from one of the most uneven flocks next week.

During the week ending May 16 several light showers delayed shearing and somewhat retarded field work. A heavy rain accompanied by hail occurred on the 14th. Considerable damage was done in the Pole Cat Valley on the Frannie Division. Where the storm was most severe the alfalfa was cut back to the crowns, and beets which were up were destroyed.

One day was spent in weighing fleeces as the sheep were sheared. Milk samples were collected and tested from the nine herds using the Government bulls. Milk samples were also collected and tested from three other herds. One five-acre pasture was sown with mixed grasses. One flock of hens was culled.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

Mr. Kreutzer and Mr. Olin, agriculturist for the D. & R. G. W. Railroad, visited Montrose the first of the week ending May 16 in the interests of colonization and co-operative marketing, holding public meetings and conferences with various persons. Most of the first three

Uncompahgre (continued)

days of the week was spent with these men and in attendance at the meetings. Some very plausible ideas were advanced; and those who heard Mr. Kreutzer seemed to feel that his plans might be put into effect to good advantage on the Uncompahgre Project.

Milk testing occupied two days, tests being run for twelve men. A conference regarding the premium list was held with the secretary of the Montrose fair and one of the department superintendents. A call was made on the manager of the livestock shipping association to discuss the work of the association and the feasibility of attempting to extend it. Arrangements were made with Dr. Dunlap, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, to take up the plan to extend the tuberculosis eradication area into Delta County.

Hogs dropped a dollar on the Denver market this week.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | May 23, 1925 | No. 21

Western Irrigation Agriculture

San Antonio

During the four weeks ending May 23 the following meteorological data were recorded: Maximum temperature 99, May 19; minimum 39, April 30; greatest daily range 37, April 28; and precipitation 2.06 inches. Twenty days were clear, three were partly cloudy, and five were cloudy. The first half inch of precipitation came in small, scattered showers and was lost by evaporation shortly after falling. The remainder came in the form of local showers, but was of such proportions at the station as to be effective in temporarily breaking the long period of drought. Corn and sorghums which had been planted in dry seed beds the latter part of March finally emerged to generally good stands following rains of May 8 and 10 (1.56 inches).

Preparation of seed beds for cotton was started May 12, and planting of rotation plats was done May 13 and 14. Cotton plantings were made May 15 and 16 on D-3, D-4, and the Herbst tract for the Office of Crop Acclimatization. Hot, dry weather, which followed planting, rapidly dried out the upper soil, and stands secured range from very poor to excellent, with the majority classed as poor or worse.

Flax harvest was started May 4. Ripening was progressing rapidly until the rains came. Since then new growth has started and the ripening of later varieties has been slow and non-uniform. The yields of flax will be small, but it is the only winter crop on the station which has produced grain.

Winter oats on the rotation and tillage plats were a complete failure as a grain crop and produced an insignificant yield of hay of poor quality on only those plats which had been summer-plowed. In the small grain variety test (planted on summer-fallowed land) oats made fair to poor plant growth, but failed to fill. Hannchen, Stavropol, and Texas Winter varieties of barley made fair growth and set a fairly good crop of grain, while Tennessee Winter and White Club failed entirely. Texas Winter rye made good growth and set a fairly good crop of grain, while Rosen, the only other variety tested, made little plant growth and set no grain. Arnautka and Kubanka varieties of wheat made satisfactory plant growth and produced good crops of well-filled grain; Early Baart and Mediterranean varieties were entirely unable to withstand the drought. The small amount of grain which barley, rye, and wheat attempted to mature was entirely destroyed by birds while in the milk or early dough stages. The varieties were mowed, and the weight of hay produced is the only record made in connection with yields from the experiment.

A grain sorghum variety test was planted May 19 on C-5. Due to the fact that this field was plowed after the last fall rains and was extremely dry, rough, and cloddy when the above-noted precipitation occurred, there was very little moisture in the seed bed at time of planting and, unless subsequent weather conditions are favorable, it is very doubtful whether emergence will take place.

San Antonio (continued)

Dr. A. G. Johnson, Senior Pathologist, Office of Cereal Investigations, visited the station April 23. R. D. Martin was at the station from May 13 to 16, inclusive, making cotton plantings for the Office of Crop Acclimatization and Adaptation Investigations.

Geo. T. Ratliffe.

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the two-week period ending May 23 was 72, with a maximum of 91 on the 21st; the average minimum was 45, with a minimum of 38 on the 13th. The rainfall for the period was 1.85 inches. The total precipitation since April 1 has been 3.06 inches as compared with 0.95 inch for the same period last year.

During this period water has been run continuously with the exception of one or two days, when, through an error of the ditch rider, water was shut off. All of the alfalfa and sweet clover fields and the alfalfa plats in Field K have been irrigated once and are in good condition.

During the past two weeks the corn plats in Field K, II-C, and a part of Field E were prepared and planted. All beet plats received the first cultivation, and the potatoes in the time-of-digging test and the second in the time-of-planting test were planted.

All of the hogs, with the exception of half a car that is being prepared for market, are now on pasture. The ewes and lambs have been divided up and entered on the summer-feeding tests.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects.

Belle Fourche

Three days of the week ending May 23 were spent in the office working on livestock records and preparing reports. One article of 554 words on the cheese factory proposition was written for the local press. The annual farm picnic is scheduled for June 6, and most of one day was given to the consideration of a program which is made up largely of acts and stunts by communities. Two bands of sheep were dipped for the eradication of scabies, and farm calls were made at six places to investigate sickness among livestock. The agriculturist left the project Friday evening with County Agent Ellison for Belle Fourche on route for the Fort Collins conference.

F. E. Miller.

North Platte

During the week ending May 23 three pig clubs and one calf club started keeping records. All of the livestock clubs have started now except three. They will start keeping records next week. In Scottsbluff County there are five dairy calf clubs, four pig clubs, and two sheep clubs, with a total membership of 92 boys and 4 girls. There are two calf and two pig clubs in Morrill County.

North Platte (continued)

A conference was held this week with County Agent Nelson in regard to club work and poultry work in Morrill County. Some time will be spent with Mr. Nelson in this county the latter part of this month.

The Board of Directors of the South Sioux Poultry Association met one evening this week to transact business of the association and to arrange the program for the June meeting. There is some interest in shipping live poultry in car-lots, and that proposition will be taken up at the next meeting when bids will be received from dealers. Three cases of eggs were graded and shipped to New York this week.

D. H. Propps.

Uncompahgre

During the week ending May 23 milk tests were run for three men, and the regular letter to all men who are keeping records of their herds with this office was issued.

Part of the ton-litter entries in Delta County were marked. Twenty entries have been made in Delta, but some of them have failed to qualify on account of the size of the litters. Six entries were marked this week, and there will be about as many more. Representatives from the Delta Chamber of Commerce assisted with this work.

Some time was spent in collecting data to take to the conference to be held in Fort Collins next week. Mr. Cooley arrived on Thursday for a two-day visit on the project before going on to the conference. Visits were made with him to a number of the new pasture seedings made last year and to owners of some of the Hampshire sheep shipped from Idaho last winter. There has been a considerable loss among these ewes since they arrived, a number of them having died from bloat or other causes.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | May 30, 1925 | No. 22

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Huntley

The maximum temperature for the two weeks ending May 30 was 89, minimum 35, and precipitation .57 inch.

Due to conditions of prolonged drouth which continued through this period, crops in this section both on irrigated and dry lands are in rather poor condition. Irrigation to provide moisture for germination of seeds was general throughout the valley. It is probable that some of the sugar-beet acreage will be abandoned and the land seeded to late grains or beans.

At the station, the seeding of corn and beans was completed and the irrigation of all crops was continued.

A demonstration train operated by the Northern Pacific Railway and the Great Western Sugar Company, for the purpose of promoting the sugar-beet industry, was on the Project during the week and meetings were held at three points on the project. Separate meetings were held with growers and beet laborers, and the principal points brought out were the value of crop rotations and of proper hand labor in leaving better stands and selecting the larger plants at thinning.

Messrs. W. P. Hogarty, J. A. McMasters, and A. M. Hutchins, officials of the Great Western Sugar Company, and Director F. B. Linfield of the Montana State Station, were station visitors during the week.

Dan Hansen.

Newlands

The field work at this station for the two-week period ending May 30 has consisted of planting C-11, 12, 13 to Japanese millet; cultivating the corn, beets, and potatoes; and harrowing the orchard.

A fertilizer test with tomatoes has been started in the garden. The variety of tomatoes used in this test is the June Pink. Following is an outline of this experiment:

1. Check
2. Check
3. Acid phosphate, 240 lbs. to the acre
4. Check
5. Calcium nitrate, 314 lbs. to the acre
6. Check
7. Potash, 135 lbs. to the acre
8. Check
9. Acid phosphate, plus calcium nitrate 180 lbs., plus 120 lbs.
10. Check
11. Acid phosphate, plus potash 180 lbs., plus 120 lbs.
12. Check
13. Calcium nitrate, plus potash 120 lbs., plus 120 lbs.
14. Check

Newlands (continued)

15. Calcium nitrate, plus potash, plus acid phosphate 120 lbs., plus 120 lbs., plus 180 lbs.
16. Check
17. Check

The orchard has been sprayed for the second time with arsenate spray, to control the codling moth; and the irrigation ditches have been mowed.

E. W. Knight.

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending May 30 was 78, with a maximum of 92 on the 29th; the average minimum was 50, with a minimum of 43 on the morning of the 25th. The precipitation amounted to 1.26 inches, or a total of 3.40 inches for the month, as compared with 1.64 inches for the month of May, 1924. For the season of 1925 the precipitation has been 4.14 inches as compared with 2.28 inches in 1924.

During the week the alfalfa plats in Fields K and H were irrigated. All the alfalfa has now been watered and is in good growing condition. The grass pastures and the sweet clover in Fields B and C were watered the second time and the water shut off.

The superintendent spent two days of the week attending the conference called by the Director of Extension Service, C. W. Warburton, which was held at Fort Collins, Colorado, on the 25th and 26th. On the 27th Director Warburton and Mr. A. C. Cooley, of the Office of Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects, with his field men, Messrs. F. E. Miller of the Belle Fourche Project, John T. Montgomery of the Minidoka, L. E. Cline of the Newlands, L. B. Miller of the Flathead, H. A. Ireland of the Uncompahgre, O. J. Grace of the Shoshone, and D. H. Propps of the North Platte, returned with the superintendent and spent the afternoon at the Experiment Farm, where the investigational work that is being done was explained to them in detail. The next morning they were taken over a portion of the project, returning to their various stations that afternoon.

Dean E. A. Burnett; W. W. Burr, agronomist; and W. H. Brokaw, extension director of the Agricultural College at Lincoln, were visitors during the week.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

All but Saturday of the week ending May 30 was spent attending the Fort Collins conference or en route to or from the conference.

On Saturday one band of sheep were dipped and two farm calls were made regarding livestock matters. During the absence of the agriculturist from the project Dr. Davis dipped seven small bands of sheep.

F. E. Miller.

Minidoka

The principal part of the time of the week ending May 23 was spent on calf club and poultry matters and assembling material for the Fort Collins conference. Problems in chick brooding, due to wet and cold weather, have been numerous. Most of the troubles are traceable to lack of sufficient heat and proper ventilation in brooders and brooder houses, particularly lack of heat.

The week ending May 30 was spent in conference at Fort Collins, Colorado, with Mr. Warburton, Mr. Cooley, directors of Extension of New Mexico, Nevada, Colorado, and Wyoming, and the agriculturists of the reclamation projects. One day was spent at the Scottsbluff Experiment Farm, where Superintendent Holden explained the various crop rotations which he has followed for a period of years at that station.

Saturday was spent with Mr. Miller from the Flathead Project, showing him the points of agricultural interest on the Minidoka Project.

John T. Montgomery.

North Platte

The greater part of the week ending May 30 was devoted to the annual conference of field men at Fort Collins and at the Scottsbluff Experiment Farm.

At the request of County Agent Nelson, an official test was made on three milking Shorthorn cows that he is testing in Morrill County.

Two purebred Hampshire lambs were ordered from the University of Nebraska for boys in the Morrill sheep club. The lambs arrived Saturday and the club was started. There are six boys in the club and they all have purebred Hampshire lambs.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

During the week ending May 23 fifty-two samples of milk were tested for thirteen farmers. Three farmers have requested me to locate Jersey bulls for them while in Colorado and Nebraska attending the conference.

The beet demonstration cars, with speakers from the Great Western Sugar Company and the State University, were here Wednesday; 256 farmers visited the demonstration cars and listened to the lectures.

I left the project Saturday morning to attend the conference at Fort Collins.

During the week ending May 30 I attended the conference at Fort Collins and visited Scottsbluff. I returned to Powell Friday evening and spent Saturday with Mr. A. C. Cooley and Director C. W. Warburton on the project.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

Practically all of the week ending May 30 was spent at the conference at Fort Collins and Scottsbluff and en route to and from these places.

On the return trip from Denver a visit was made to the Bonvue Shorthorn farm near Golden for the purpose of inspecting stock offered for sale, a request for information regarding the quality of this stock and the prices asked having been made by a project farmer at Delta. On account of the shortage of irrigation water and low rainfall in this section, it was found that pastures were very poor and the cattle are looking rather thin, although it was evident that there are some very good cows and heifers in the herd. Prices quoted were said to be low because of the feed shortage, but nothing was offered for less than $100 per head, which was considered high, considering the quality of the animals and the current prices of good dairy cows. These Shorthorns are supposed to be dairy bred, and most of the better cows of the herd have fairly good official records. Another stop was made at Colorado Springs to see the Pine Valley milking Shorthorn herd, an appointment having been made by telephone with the manager of the farm. He failed to put in an appearance however, and the cattle of this herd were not seen.

Montrose was reached on Saturday afternoon.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | June 6, 1925 | No. 23

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Huntley

The maximum temperature for the week ending June 6 was 81, minimum 39, and precipitation 2.44 inches.

Drouth conditions of nearly two months were relieved by heavy rains during the week which greatly improved crop conditions, although some of the beet acreage on the project was already abandoned and seeded to other crops. In some of the more favored sections beet thinning is under way.

At the station practically all crops were irrigated before the rains occurred. Work was undertaken during the week on irrigation system structures and on repairing machinery and buildings.

Mr. C. W. Warburton and Mr. A. C. Cooley visited the station on May 31.

Dan Hansen.

Newlands

The meteorological data recorded at this station for the week ending June 6 follows: Mean maximum temperature 64; mean minimum temperature 39.6, minimum 34 on the 4th. There was .69 of an inch of rain: .03 fell on the 1st, .6 on the 3rd, .17 on the 4th, and .33 on the 5th.

The work at the station has consisted of cultivating corn, beets, and the garden; mowing ditches; and thinning beets. The plum and the peach trees were sprayed with "Black Leaf Forty" for aphids.

One irrigation was given. The plats irrigated were B2-22, inclusive; C2-10, inclusive; all of D except 3 and 7; E-3, 4, 5, 6; all of F except 3 and 15; all of G; H-1 to 5, inclusive; J-1 to 7, inclusive; and Y2-18, inclusive.

E. W. Knight.

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending June 6 has been 73, with a maximum of 90 on May 31; the average minimum was 48, with a minimum of 46 on the 3rd, 5th, and 6th. The week has been cool and cloudy with some precipitation every day, there being a total for the week of 0.67 inch. Crops are in splendid condition.

During the week the potato plat in Rotation 21 was manured; and the plats in Rotations 21, 26, 27, 30, and 31 were plowed and prepared for planting. The beet plats in Fields K and E were cultivated and thinning commenced on the 1st. The corn plats in Fields C, E, and K were harrowed, and the potatoes in Field E were cultivated. Other miscellaneous jobs such as fixing fence, mowing roadways, cutting potatoes, and various small repair jobs were attended to.

No water was run during the week.

Mr. R. W. Goss, associate plant pathologist of the College of Agriculture at Lincoln, was here during the week and superintended the planting

Scottsbluff (continued)

of some experimental plats of potatoes in some investigational work carried on by his department.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

A much needed rain, amounting to one inch, fell during the week ending June 6. The first cutting of alfalfa will be short, but the small grain crops look exceedingly well. The corn and beets are now up, and with plenty of moisture in the ground these crops have bright prospects for large yields.

The annual farmers' picnic was held Saturday on the county fair grounds at Nisland and, in spite of the threatening weather and very heavy roads, nearly 400 were in attendance. Three communities were represented in the community vaudeville stunts, which added much to the entertainment. Mr. M. R. Benedict, of the State extension force, gave a very instructive talk on co-operative marketing.

The Ayrshire club held a meeting on Wednesday, at which time a demonstration and the use of score cards in connection with the judging of dairy animals was given and explained to the younger members of the club. The boys and girls of all the clubs are very desirous of attending the State fair this year; there promises to be real competition in the county, and the chances look bright for the selection of competent demonstration teams to represent the county. Several clubs are holding sales and basket suppers to help finance the trip to the State fair in case their club team is selected to go.

Henry Richmond's sheep were dipped for the eradication of scabies during the week. The railway yards at Newell were thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. An illustrated article on Sheep on the Belle Fourche Project was prepared for publication for the Water Users' Board in connection with the advertising campaign in the Sioux Falls and Sioux City presses. Dr. Niederauer, a State veterinarian, is again on the project, continuing his work of tubercular testing of dairy cattle.

F. E. Miller.

Minidoka

A Field Day and tour for the Declo Calf Club was held the week ending June 6. All of the calf club members and three farmers visited the farms on which all of the calves were located. A judging demonstration was conducted by the agriculturist at the farm of Mr. Joe Walker, and the boys were instructed on feeding and training their calves for show.

At the Dubois sheep station, Superintendent Dennecke explained the breeding work being carried on at that station and conducted a party over the range experiments, showing particularly the method of protecting the range by limited pasture and their methods of providing water on dry range. The results of four years' work indicate that protecting the range by limited pasture has increased the growth of forage by allowing reseeding.

John T. Montgomery.

North Platte

During the week ending June 6 the secretary of each livestock club was visited and given assistance in filling out the first month's report. The eleven clubs in Scotts Bluff County have a total membership of 94 boys and 4 girls.

One club leader and four boys, who won trips as county champions in the pig, calf, and sheep clubs last year, attended club week at Lincoln this week.

The South Sioux Poultry Association met Monday evening in Sheep Creek community. The subject for discussion was fitting poultry for market. The attendance was estimated at 250. The July meeting will be held in Henry. At that time Professor Mussehl, head of the Poultry Department at Lincoln, will discuss poultry houses. The following day he will give three demonstrations, showing how to remodel an old house and make it into a new one.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The week ending June 6 has been unseasonably cold, with showers every day. Roads have been slippery and farm work, especially thinning beets, has been retarded. Alfalfa is growing slowly.

We received the co-operative shipment of sheep dip, and a part of it has been taken out by the farmers. A meeting of the wool growers was held in the office on Friday to decide on the disposal of the wool clip. It will be consigned and shipped co-operatively to the same firm which handled it last year.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

Over half of the week ending June 6 was spent in connection with the local fair, revising the premium list, conferring with the secretary, who is a new man in that position, the Board of Directors, and various department superintendents. An arrangement is being attempted, in co-operation with the local creamery company and others, to feature the dairy department at the fair this year.

Friday and Saturday were spent in Delta County on club work, a trip being made to a number of sheep camps to try to secure lambs for members of a sheep club in which 23 boys have enrolled. Difficulty is being experienced in finding enough lambs to supply all the members.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | June 13, 1925 | No. 24

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Newlands

For the week ending June 13, Mr. Knight reports as follows:

Mean maximum temperature 78.6, maximum 81 on the 8th and 9th; mean minimum 45.1, minimum 38 on the 10th. There was no rainfall during this period.

The work at the station has consisted of cultivating the field crops, such as corn, beets, and potatoes. The cutting of the first crop of alfalfa has occupied the time of most of the men during this period. The yields of the different plats will be given in a later report, as the hay is still in the shock.

Mr. A. F. Alps, of the U. S. Weather Bureau at Reno, was a station visitor Friday. He was checking up on the Bureau's meteorological apparatus on the Project.

E. W. Knight.

San Antonio

During the three weeks ending June 13 a maximum temperature of 101 degrees was recorded; the minimum for the same period was 62, and the greatest daily range was 32. A measurable quantity of precipitation was recorded on three days as follows: .26 inch May 25, .20 inch June 6, and .02 inch June 13—a total of .48 inch. Twelve days were clear, eight were partly cloudy, and one day was cloudy.

The first cutting of Rhodes grass was harvested May 26, with a yield of .39 ton per acre of air-dry hay. This grass remained practically dormant until May 10 and had just started heading when harvested.

All cotton, corn, and row sorghum plantings were given one cultivation. Corn on the rotation and tillage plats was thinned June 4.

Other field operations included the manuring, plowing, and subsoiling of rotation plats; plowing flax stubble on Field B-4 and oat stubble on Fields B-3 and C-3; disk harrowing Fields C-3 and F-3 for control of grass and weeds; chopping Johnson grass from cotton plantings and miscellaneous rotation plats; and irrigating nursery and grounds plantings.

The harvesting of flax was completed, and on June 9 and 10 that from the one-twentieth acre variety test plats was threshed and recleaned. The combined effects of late planting, winter killing, and protracted drouth resulted in very low yields. The big seeded Argentine selections exhibited more power to yield under the extremely severe climatic conditions than the Russian strains. The following table summarizes the more important data recorded during the season. Planting seed of C. I. numbers 244, 314, and 316 was produced in North Dakota, while seed of the other numbers was from the local 1924 crop.

San Antonio (continued)

Flax Variety Test planted December 9, 1924, in duplicated 1/20-acre plats on Field B4, San Antonio Experiment Farm.

C.I. No.	Variety name	Seeding rate	Date of harvest	Stand 1000 plants per acre	Height at harvest	Yield: seed per acre	Weight per bushel
		# acre			(in.)	(bu.)	
13	N.D.R. 114	45	5-4	250	16	1.50	50.5
275	N.D.R. 52	45	5-5	827	16	1.79	52.0
244	N.D. 40015	45	5-5	196	20	1.68	52.0
19	Reserve	42	5-5	431	22	4.14	52.5
13	N.D.R. 114	45	5-5	254	19	1.93	53.0
280	Long No. 79	38	5-13	244	20	3.46	52.0
44	La Plata	38	5-13	392	16	3.41	51.0
107	Morteros	38	5-13	259	16	2.96	50.5
13	N.D.R. 114	45	5-5	330	18	2.23	53.5
109	Rosquin	45	5-13	337	15	3.50	51.5
314	Morye	46	5-13	470	16	2.79	47.5
316	Rosario	36	6-6	364	12	3.36	50.5
13	N.D.R. 114	45	5-5	249	17	1.79	52.5
275	N.D.R. 52	45	5-5	673	17	1.79	52.5
244	N.D. 40015	45	5-5	471	18	1.68	51.5
19	Reserve	42	5-5	512	19	3.39	53.0
13	N.D.R. 114	45	5-5	235	20	2.36	52.0
280	Long No. 79	38	5-13	185	21	4.11	50.0
44	La Plata	38	5-13	257	18	4.50	50.5
107	Morteros	38	5-13	299	17	4.00	50.0
13	N.D.R. 114	45	5-5	375	17	1.50	50.0
109	Rosquin	45	5-13	500	16	3.21	47.0
314	Morye	46	5-13	369	20	3.07	43.0
316	Rosario	36	6-6	413	13	2.86	46.5
13	N.D.R. 114	45	5-5	315	20	2.05	43.0

Bundles from the flax nursery planting were stored in the barn loft to keep them from being damaged by occasional showers. The time-of-seeding flax test was abandoned because of the very poor stands secured and the non-uniformity of growth.

Geo. T. Ratliffe.

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending June 13 was 72, with a maximum of 85 on the 10th; the average minimum was 46, with a minimum of 38 on the morning of the 8th. On this morning there was frost reported in some localities on the Project. This cold spell followed the heaviest rain recorded at this station. In a 24-hour rain, beginning Saturday evening and lasting until the next evening, there were 2.91 inches of rain. It was a general rain so far as this Valley was concerned, the rainfall varying from 2.50 on the south side to 2.91 at this station.

During the week the potato plats in Field K were planted. The

Scottsbluff (continued)

spindle tuber test plats and another four rows in the time-of-planting test in Field E were planted. All beet plats were cultivated in order to break up the crust formed by the heavy rain. Other miscellaneous work, such as ditching, cultivating potatoes, repairing mowers and other equipment, was done.

Haying has commenced. In many localities the first cutting will be below normal on account of damage by hail and freezing. The yield will be about normal at the Station.

Mr. A. C. Maxson, superintendent of the Great Western Sugar Company's experiment farm at Longmont, Colorado, was a visitor at the Station this week.

James A. Holden.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

During the week ending June 13 the topics for demonstrations for four demonstration club teams were discussed with the club leaders and the members of four clubs. One club demonstration team has been selected, and three others will be selected by trials held in the near future. At two club meetings work in the judging of livestock was demonstrated to the club and preliminary practice given to the members by the use of score cards.

Two meetings were attended in connection with the proposed cheese factory at Vale. Matters pertaining to methods of financing and marketing were discussed at length.

Four bands of sheep were dipped for the eradication of scabies, and three yards were cleaned and disinfected.

Dr. Niederauer, State veterinarian, concluded testing work at the present time for the elimination of tuberculosis among dairy cattle. Five additional herds of the project are now fully accredited.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

For the week ending June 6, Mr. Miller reports as follows:

The agriculturist visited the Minidoka Project with Mr. Montgomery on Sunday and Monday, leaving Monday noon for Dubois, Idaho, where we arrived at noon on Tuesday to attend the Sheep Growers' Day at the Experiment Farm near Dubois. Leaving Dubois in the evening of the same day, Ronan was reached on the evening of June 3.

The latter part of the week was spent in making final arrangements and advertising the farm tours and dairy meeting to be held the following week; meeting with the Charlo community fair committee to assist them in making preliminary arrangements; correspondence, farm calls, etc.

One flock of 138 hens was culled, 53 being removed for market. Tuberculosis was demonstrated in flock of one poultry raiser; coccidiosis was demonstrated in another flock. Treatment was advised for garget and for milk suppression. Two men were advised regarding registration of alfalfa for seed. The Mormon cricket situation near Charlo was investigated. Stanbaugh, of Deer Lodge, was conferred with relative to source of

Flathead (continued)

ewe supply for Project farmers.

Butter-fat is 39 and 37 cents. Eggs are bringing 30 cents in trade.

It has rained intermittently all the week ending June 13. The alfalfa is ready to cut, and continued weather unfavorable to hay-making will result in a coarse first cutting and a delayed and short second cutting. Some alfalfa has been cut and is suffering in quality from the rains. Grains are looking fine, except corn, which is slow, due to cool weather prevailing during the week and for some time previously.

Farm tours were conducted Tuesday and Wednesday, with a dairy meeting on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. J. O. Tretsven, State extension dairy specialist, participated in the tours and meeting. A Project Fair committee meeting was attended the first of the week. A mass meeting at Ronan was held on Saturday by the people of the Valley, at which time the 4th of July picnic was briefly discussed and water problems given attention.

The dairy program was discussed with Tretsven, and a conference with Mr. Lott, assistant State county agent leader, was held. Phenol treatment for abortion was explained to a dairyman. Mr. Hogan was given assistance in locating a Guernsey sire. Gordon was assisted in calf stanchion problem in barn being built. Sturms was advised regarding improving water supply for dairy herd.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

The agriculturist accompanied Mr. Joe Walker, president of the local Holstein Friesian Association, to Boise Valley to select a couple of herd bulls and some cows for members of the local association. A number of herds were visited, and an agreement was made for purchase of the Pipher herd. The cattle selected were a choice lot of excellent type and known production, highest producers in their cow-testing association.

A number of other herds were visited, but some of the cattle were priced beyond the reach of Project settlers.

John T. Montgomery.

North Platte

Most of the week ending June 13 was devoted to a farmers' short course in Dawes County, Nebraska, about 120 miles northeast of the Experiment Farm. The course was put on by the county agent in Dawes County for the benefit of landowners on the new Whitney Project. This is a private project, just about completed, comprising about 10,000 acres. The land under the ditch is owned by twenty men. The cost of constructing the ditch is $42 an acre.

The course consisted of lectures and demonstrations on ditch construction, use of water, cropping systems, and livestock on reclamation projects. The latter subject was handled by the agriculturist.

Two days were spent with the county agent in Morrill County. A demonstration and lecture on poultry diseases was given Tuesday evening,

North Platte (continued)

and on Saturday afternoon a calf and pig club in the same community met and judging practice was given.

D. H. Propps.

Uncompahgre

During the week ending June 13 the remainder of the ton-litter entries in Delta County were ear-marked. In all only eight of the twenty entries have been kept in the contest to date, others being dropped because of too small a number of pigs in the litters or a shortage of feed.

Two club meetings were held in Delta County, and some time was spent in trying to locate lambs for the sheep club there. Twenty-five boys are enrolled in the livestock clubs of Garnet Mesa, where a strong community club is backing the boys' and girls' clubs.

A poultry club meeting and two public meetings were held in Montrose County with the State poultry specialist, who spent the entire week in Montrose with the county agent and the project agriculturist, holding meetings on the farms of some of the poultry demonstrators and visiting the others. He will spend next week in Delta County on the same work. Care of growing chicks is the principal work being discussed at this time, with some attention being given to plans for poultry houses.

A call was received to inspect a herd of hogs in which three pigs had died. Cholera was suspected by the owner, but no evidence of this disease could be found. The local veterinarian was taken to see the herd and recommended a vaccination with a "Mixed-infection" preparation; this was used, and no further loss has occurred.

The State veterinarian and B.A.I. inspector in charge visited Montrose and Delta Counties this week and held meetings at both places to discuss the tuberculin testing in this district. An arrangement is being worked out for the cities to co-operate with the State and Federal officials in carrying on the work. According to this plan, the local authorities will see that the test is made at local expense, and the owners of cattle will be paid for reactors from State and Federal funds.

H. A. Ireland.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI | June 20, 1925 | No. 25

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Newlands

The meteorological data recorded at this station for the week ending June 20 follows: Mean maximum temperature 87, maximum 93 on the 19th and 20th; mean minimum 49.6, minimum 39 on the 15th. There was .02 of an inch of rainfall on the 20th.

The work at the station has consisted of hauling and stacking hay, cultivating the garden, and trimming up about the premises. The first cutting of alfalfa has been made; the average yield per acre was 2,639 pounds.

Mr. Cooley was a station visitor on June 17. He made a hurried inspection of the reclamation experiment being carried out on the Y series. The results impressed him as showing remarkably well what could be expected of some types of alkaline soils when subjected to treatments for reclamation.

E. W. Knight.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

All except one-half day of the week ending June 20 was spent in the field. Three boys' and girls' club meetings were attended, and assistance was given to four clubs in the selection of demonstration teams and in the subject matter for the demonstration teams.

Two bands of sheep were dipped during the week, and the premises at two farms were cleaned and disinfected under supervision.

The proposed co-operative cheese factory in the Vale territory will not be urged at the present time due to a lack of understanding of such an association by the farmers and difficulties in financing. The business men of the Project are, however, considering its possibilities and there may be other efforts put forth to establish a cheese factory in the future.

Milk tests were run for one dairyman and skim-milk tests for two dairymen. One cream separator was found to be losing 1 per cent of butter-fat. This machine will be replaced immediately by a new one.

Four purebred Ayrshire bulls were placed during the week, two of them going to members of the boys' and girls' Ayrshire club.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

There were occasional showers throughout the week ending June 20, interfering somewhat with haying, which had already been delayed a week to ten days due to rains. Reservoirs are practically all filled near

Flathead (continued)

to capacity.

One pig club member was visited and litter checked. Four calf club members were visited and one calf club meeting was attended. Preliminary work on demonstration teams was started. One farmers' meeting was attended and Mormon cricket control was discussed. The work of the pig club members was checked and plans were made for follow-up work.

Farm calls were made to inspect sick chickens, to obtain data on present farmstead lay-out with a view to drawing up plans for rearrangement and landscaping, to get dimensions of new barn and draw up plans for feeding arrangements for calves, and to inspect corn fields in variety trials.

A committee meeting was attended and individual conferences held to make arrangements for the second annual Lake County picnic on July 4 at Polson.

Treatment for lice on hogs was given to one farmer; to another, garget treatment; and to three, Mormon cricket control measures.

Butter-fat is 28 and 40 cents locally. Eggs are 30 and 32½ cents.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

The principal part of the week ending June 20 was spent on feed problems and in organizing a drive for a cow-testing association.

A combination herd of range cattle which are being pastured in the desert was visited. Four or five of the animals have been lost, and it was suspected that they had gotten hold of poisonous plants or poisoned grain put out for rodents. A post-mortem of one animal revealed a severe impaction, and the herd was being watched to determine, if possible, whether all these losses might not have been due to the same cause.

A committee from the Grange and one from the Holstein Friesian Association met at the agriculturist's office to consider a joint Holstein and Grange Fair.

John T. Montgomery.

North Platte

Most of the week ending June 20 was devoted to livestock clubs. Some assistance was given County Agent Nelson in selecting club pigs in Morrill County. Inspection was made of the club pigs and lambs in Scotts Bluff County.

The four boys and one local leader who attended club week in Lincoln last week returned this week full of enthusiasm. One or more of them will be used at each of the club meetings this month.

Returns were received for the shipment of eggs sent to New York by freight two weeks ago. The consignors received a remittance of 24 1/3 cents a dozen net. This was just a little better than the eggs would have brought in trade locally.

Crop prospects in the Valley are generally considered to be the best in the history of the Project. Rain has been plentiful for the last few weeks and everything is growing well.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The co-operative shipment of wool grown on the Project was made during the week ending June 13. It consisted of 21,016 pounds consigned by twenty-six farmers. Some wool had been sold on contract during the winter, so that there was about 7,000 pounds less to ship this year than last.

I collected and tested 31 samples of milk from six herds. A Jersey bull calf was received from a breeder at Mitchell, Nebraska, for one of the Project farmers who is building up a grade Jersey herd. This is the first of three which have been ordered. Another bull calf was selected for a farmer on the Frannie Division. This is a calf that was raised on the Garland Division.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

Four days of the week ending June 20 were spent with the State Poultry Specialist in Delta County, holding meetings on some of the poultry demonstration farms and visiting the others. Three meetings were held. The attendance was rather small because of the fact that hay harvest has just begun, but interest was generally very good. Those present were principally women. Two poultry clubs met with the Specialist and visits were made to their flocks. Six visits were made to farms of demonstrators to assist with records and plans. Some of these expect to build better houses for their poultry as soon as possible and others want to secure better breeding stock for next year.

Friday was occupied with club work and work in connection with the local fair. As a result of a conference with a local member of the State Board of Corrections, arrangements were made to secure a number of purebred ewe lambs from the State Reformatory at Buena Vista for premiums in the club department and for sheep club members of Delta County.

On Saturday milk tests were run for seven men.

H. A. Ireland.

Miscellaneous

ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS, FISCAL YEAR 1926

The funds appropriated for the work of this office during the fiscal year 1926 have been allotted to office projects as shown in table below. The attention of the field men is again called to the necessity for the strictest economy in the expenditure of funds during the year. It is necessary that expenditures at the various stations be kept within the amounts allotted. No additional funds will be available.

Washington, D. C. and Tucson, Arizona	$15,200.00
U. S. Huntley Field Station, Huntley, Mont.	16,000.00
U. S. Belle Fourche Field Station, Newell, S.D.	16,000.00
U. S. Newlands Field Station, Fallon, Nevada ...	12,000.00

Allotment of Funds (continued)

U. S. San Antonio Field Station, San Antonio, Texas	$12,000.00
U. S. Yuma Field Station, Bard, California	16,000.00
U. S. Umatilla Field Station, Hermiston, Oregon	3,000.00
U. S. North Platte Field Station, Mitchell, Neb.	12,000.00
Prosser, Washington	3,000.00
Total appropriation	$105,200.00

C. S. S. 6-30-25.

W E E K L Y R E P O R T S
Of the Offices of
WESTERN IRRIGATION AGRICULTURE
and
DEMONSTRATIONS ON RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Vol. XVI June 27, 1925 No. 26

Western Irrigation Agriculture

San Antonio

Local showers occurred throughout the San Antonio region during the week ending June 27. All were of an extremely local character and provided only enough moisture to temporarily relieve the drought. On a portion of the Experiment Farm and in some small areas throughout the area there was sufficient precipitation to insure the germination of cotton and sorghum seed which had previously failed to emerge because of dry soil. The following meteorological data were recorded at the station: Maximum temperature 101, minimum 68, and greatest daily range 28; precipitation .74 inch; sky clear 11 days, partly cloudy 3 days.

The spotted stands of cotton on the rotation plats were thinned June 19 and 20. On six of the plats there was no stand whatever. The poor stands originally obtained on some plats have been further reduced by May beetles, which have been present in unusually large numbers for the past two months.

Corn, milo, and sorghum in planted rows were given two cultivations. All fallow plats and fields were cultivated with disk and "cyclone" harrows. Orchards and vineyards were also cultivated. The vigor with which the Johnson grass continues to grow in spite of the drought and frequent cultivation is remarkable.

Rotation plats A5-11 and 15 were disked deeply and planted to Whippoorwill cowpeas, in 24-inch rows, June 22.

Other work performed during the period has included weeding grounds, nurseries, orchards, and rotation plats; watering orchard trees and vines set out the past winter; repairing and painting the dining room and kitchen at the Farm Mess; and building a small separator for threshing the bundles of flax from the nursery planting.

Geo. T. Ratliffe.

Scottsbluff

The average maximum temperature for the week ending June 27 was 84, with a maximum of 89 on the 27th; the average minimum was 53, with a minimum of 50 on the morning of the 27th. Two light showers occurred during the week amounting to 0.35 of an inch of rain.

During the week the first cutting of alfalfa was put in the stack in very good shape. The yield was very good, though less than the first cutting for last year.

Water was run continuously during the week and the grass pastures and the alfalfa plats in Fields A and D were watered.

James A. Holden.

Yuma

The maximum temperature for the monthly period ending June 27 was 114°, minimum 48°, greatest daily range 49°; no precipitation was recorded. During the latter part of May and the fore part of June very moderate temperatures were recorded, the maximum temperature getting as low as 80°. During this time, however, there was an increase in the average daily wind velocity. An increase in the daily temperatures began June 20, reaching the maximum of 114° on June 27. These temperatures were accompanied by an increase in the average humidity. General rains were reported in eastern and northern Arizona and in the Imperial Valley in California. The humid weather this season is approximately two weeks earlier than normal. Several days were cloudy, but so far no precipitation has been reported.

The area planted to cotton on the Project is estimated to be 25,000 acres in the Yuma Valley and 8,600 on the California side of the river. Up to the present time the condition of the cotton is reported to be 98 per cent of normal. Some shedding is reported to have taken place in occasional fields, and some of the cotton has suffered from this early hot and humid weather.

The prospects at this time for a normal alfalfa seed crop are very favorable. On those fields where only one hay crop was removed this spring the seed is now well set and harvesting will commence in about ten days. Other fields where two crops of hay were removed are now heavily in blossom. The flood condition of the Colorado River this season is below normal. The maximum flow recorded at Yuma has been around 40,000 second-feet. Information from the Weather Bureau on conditions up the river indicates that another very low river will be reported during the summer months. Some sections of this country are depending a great deal on summer rains on the Colorado River watershed to help out during these months.

Cotton on the station is well into the flowering stage and has been given its second irrigation. The third crop of alfalfa has been removed from the variety test and the irrigated rotations. Alfalfa seed on the fertilizer tests was cut on June 24. Other station work performed during the week consisted of plowing under sweet clover on D 32-41; planting grain sorghum on the rotations; planting corn on the plat variation test series; hoeing cotton; and general irrigating and cultivating.

Mr. R. E. Blair, assistant statistician, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, located at Sacramento, was a station visitor on June 17 and 18.

Edward G. Noble.

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

Five bands of sheep were dipped for scabies eradication during the week ending June 27. The yards and buildings of two infected farms were cleaned and disinfected and sheep were inspected at two large shearing pens.

Plans have been completed for the Seventh Annual Boys' and Girls' Encampment, to be held at the Experiment Farm during the week of July 13

Belle Fourche (continued)

to 18. From the many requests received concerning the camp, this year promises to set a record for attendance. The boys' program includes demonstrations in judging livestock with a contest and prize awards, demonstrations in the control of sheep and hog diseases, and work in poultry, horticulture, and corn. The girls' program of home economic subjects will be conducted during the week by specialists from the State College.

Parts of two days were spent with two club livestock demonstration teams.

Butter-fat is worth 35 cents on the Project, and eggs bring 22 cents.

F. E. Miller.

Flathead

During the week ending June 27 the weather was warm with no rain except some occasional light showers. The unirrigated wheat was beginning to show signs of restricted moisture supply. The first cutting of alfalfa is well under way, with a yield above normal for the most part, and of good quality except in restricted areas where the alfalfa had developed more than desirable due to the previous rains preventing putting up the hay at the proper time.

One grade cow and calf and two purebred calves were brought in last week for the McAllister herd, two calves being used by club members. A purebred cow and calf were selected for Mr. Lyons and purchased by him. All these were of Holstein breeding.

A community meeting was held at Charlo to investigate the Mormon cricket situation, the agriculturist being called on in this connection. Farmers have individually also asked for information for the control of these crickets. A water users' meeting and a farm bureau meeting were also attended; the cultivation of alfalfa and the production of infertile eggs were particularly discussed. Mormon crickets have done considerable damage on several farms adjacent to untilled lands. The crickets are too large for effective control at this time.

Tip burn was demonstrated in Sanford field and Bordeaux suggested for control. Mrs. Armour was in for a conference on her clothing club work. Bills were distributed and other publicity given the Second Annual 4th of July picnic for the Project, to be held this year at Polson. Attention was given to getting in all applications for the Women's Vacation Camp and necessary arrangements were made with Mr. Thomas at Camp Tuffit.

Butter-fat is 37 to 39 cents for No. 1 cream at Ronan. Ranch butter is 30 cents, eggs 32½ cents, and spring chickens 20 to 22 cents.

L. B. Miller.

Minidoka

Most of the week ending June 27 was spent in the organization of a cow-testing association and signing up membership in it. One day was spent at the outlying district of Oakley to secure, if possible, four or five day's work for a cow-tester in that community. Prospects seem good. About half of the herds required were signed up for the associa-

Minidoka (continued)

tion.

One day was spent in making up a study and a report on the marketing cost of Idaho lambs for the local Wool Growers' Association. It was found that the actual money cost of shipping lambs to Omaha, in double deck car-loads from this section of Idaho, is 95 cents a head. This includes freight, feed on the way, yardage commission, and the other usual charges incident to clearing through the stock yards.

One day was spent preparing an article on the "Agricultural Opportunities of Minidoka Project" for a special edition of the Pocatello Tribune, which is a celebration issue for the American Falls Dam.

Pea fields, which give promise of good returns, were inspected on the farms of Paul Rogers and Ernest Weisall. An excellent stand is noted. Peas are practically in full bloom and are about 3½ feet high.

Problems connected with the feeding and management of growing chicks were discussed with five breeders. Round worms were found in one flock, and the tobacco treatment was recommended and is being put into practice. One flock of laying hens which had been thrown into molt by change in feed was visited and remedies suggested.

John T. Montgomery.

North Platte

During the week ending June 27 each of the livestock clubs held a business meeting and club problems were discussed. The boys who attended club week at Lincoln were present and gave reports to the meetings.

Local poultry prices have advanced to 19 cents for heavy hens and 30 cents for large broilers. Some of the farmers are beginning to dispose of their old hens. One culling demonstration was given and 30 non-layers were culled out of 150 hens.

Serum was furnished and assistance given in vaccinating 80 shoats in a herd in which the sows were already immune. No cholera has been reported in Scotts Bluff County for about eleven months. A few cases have appeared in Morrill County in the last few weeks.

Crops continue to look well and farmers are very much encouraged.

D. H. Propps.

Shoshone

The week ending June 27 has been very warm with several showers. About half of the first cutting of alfalfa is down and has been damaged slightly by rain. A cloudburst damaged the laterals and washed out the approaches to some of the bridges on the Frannie Division last week. Hail accompanied the rain and badly damaged crops on a strip a mile wide and seven or eight miles long.

The greater part of the week was spent in collecting and testing milk samples; 126 samples were collected from 23 herds. One Jersey bull calf was received from a breeder at Mitchell, Nebraska. This is the third one that has been shipped in during the past three weeks.

O. J. Grace.

Uncompahgre

Milk testing occupied the first part of the week ending June 27, seven herds being tested. One of the men who began testing a few months ago and sold three of his cows and heifers after the first test is planning to sell his entire herd except three head that he bought recently. One Jersey cow, purchased for $75 after he began testing, is now producing from two to four times as much as his other cows although fresh no longer than most of the others. He wants to buy some other cows as good as this one. Tests of most of the cows are running low at this time of year.

Some time was spent with members of the sheep clubs in connection with the offer of the State Reformatory to sell registered ewe lambs at low prices to club members. Requests for 30 lambs have been received, and it is planned to make a trip to the Reformatory with a truck to bring the lambs back. The Commissioners of Montrose County have offered the use of a truck for this purpose. A trip was also made to Cimarron in Montrose County on Friday to see some lambs and ewes for sale there. Some of these may be used.

A meeting of the County 4-H Club was held in a grove near Olathe on Friday evening to discuss plans for a summer club camp. Delta County clubs plan for a four-day encampment on Grand Mesa in August and have invited the clubs of Montrose County to join them. It was decided to accept this invitation.

A community club meeting was attended near Delta to discuss club work and a community program. The community is planning to build a two-room school house, a basement having been constructed two or three years ago which has served for school purposes and which will be used as a club room when the building is completed. Plans are being made to install a strong electric lighting system and a motion-picture machine. The club was interested in knowing about the educational films and slides prepared by the Department.

Hay harvest has been on for two weeks. Frequent showers have delayed the work, but no serious damage has resulted.

Markets: Butter-fat is bringing 37 cents in sweet (first grade) cream. Eggs have advanced to 30 cents, double the usual price at this time of year. Hogs are worth $13.50, top, at Denver. Heavy hens are 16 cents locally.

H. A. Ireland.

Western Irrigation Agriculture

Huntley

Newlands

San Antonio

Scottsbluff

Demonstrations on Reclamation Projects

Belle Fourche

Flathead

Minidoka

Newlands

North Platte

Uncompahgre